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The last act of the first German railway



Thousands of perturbed onlookers on the crowded Ludwigsbahnhof in Fürth were convinced that they were getting a foretaste of one of the contraptions they would encounter in Hell, when the first German railway train chugged along the rails, snorting and belching out sparks on 7 December 1835 at the end of its journey from Nuremberg.

One hundred and thirty-five years later the Ludwigsbahn chugged out of existence forever.

In Fürth townhall the last rites were given to the Ludwig Railway Company with an air of quiet melancholy. Georg Knopf who was for ten years chief officer of the company said: "It was the last act of a historical event."

In and around Fürth and Nuremberg the opening of the railway line caused quite a stir. It was launched by 23 private shareholders, mostly businessmen. Despite the many warnings, they expected earnings from the steaming monsters to set them up for life. Today hardly any of the heirs of the railway pioneers is still resident in either Nuremberg or Fürth. Many have emigrated to America or live somewhere in Europe probably knowing nothing of the fate of their company.

On their behalf a finance institute in Fürth is setting up accounts with the remains of the 400,000-Mark capital which will be available for them for the next five years.

Former company official Georg Knopf is however not convinced that the shareholders will want to sell their historic shares at 200 Marks.

He said: "It is extremely prestigious to still hold today shares of the first German railway company."

One Fürth transport official is manifestly of the same opinion for he has framed his share and hung it over his desk.

The company got into ever greater financial problems in the last few years. Georg Knopf commented: "History ceases where money begins."

It was decided in 1967 that the company should be dissolved when the increasing burden of taxes could no longer be paid off by interest. Dividends have not been paid since 1945.

On the contrary the company shrank from year to year visibly and had to sell one plot of land after another. Today on the stretch of land which once held the first Germany railway the train service between Nuremberg and Fürth now runs and in a few years this will have been replaced by an underground.

The whole idea began when King Ludwig visited Fürth in 1830 and promised that the town would receive a charter to open the first railway line on German territory. Although official financial support was not forthcoming the Ludwigs Eisenbahngesellschaft was formed a few years later.



The opening of the first Nuremberg-Fürth railway in 1835

(Photo: Ull

Support quickly grew for the new mode of transport even through Bavarian doctors forecast that nothing good would come of it and expressed their concern at such speedy travel.

The six-kilometre stretch was covered in a mere fifteen minutes. The Bavarian medical college is said to have claimed that the sensation of travelling so fast could cause severe damage to health and resultant impairing of parts of the body.

Progress, however, was not to b... ed. An English train driver named W... was brought over and quickly bec... highly respected person in his new ho... Yet however successful the man in t... frock-coat and top hat was as he open... ed the regulator, his private life was... from being so happy.

A young girl from Erlangen wanted... marry him but was refused permiss... because he was English. Nevertheless t... disappointed man was faithful to h... until he died in his new home. He... buried in a Nuremberg cemetery and... descendants still live in the area.

Helmut Wunsch

(Münchner Merkur, 17 January 19...)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 17 February 1970
Ninth Year - No. 410 - By air

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Another step on the long road to European integration



There will be frequent mention of the spirit of The Hague in the weeks and months to come. Every time the Six succeed in taking a short step on the long march to European integration it will be referred to as proof of the dexterity of politicians in convening a summit conference even in a desperate situation.

Summit conferences are political public relations. The general public marvel at the outcome, convinced that only heads of government can sort out a hopeless situation.

Be that as it may, if psychological tricks of this kind help the Common Market to stop treading water and make some progress towards its goal of an economically integrated Europe then let us by all means have a couple more summits in the new decade.

The government crisis in Italy may have brought more influence to bear on the pace of negotiations at the last marathon session of the Council of Ministers in Brussels than did the spirit of The Hague but it was still evident that national interests of individual countries do not preclude progress towards integration.

The decisions taken at Brussels must not be viewed as gigantic steps. The long night must not be felt to be historic, either. The outcome will be a sounder assessment of the results and less disappointment at the many obstacles that remain to be scaled at future negotiations.

A certain sigh of relief is justified now that financing of the agricultural common market is finally settled. Agricultural financing is the prize that France was able to take home, conceding serious discussion of Britain's entry bid in return.

There is no longer reason to fear that Paris might stymie preliminary and later final negotiations between the Six and Britain out of dissatisfaction with agricultural financing.

Yet pleasure unalloyed will not be possible until the EEC has decided on what to do about agricultural surpluses. Surplus butter, sugar and milk are not without effect on the Six's finances.

They are political dynamite, though, since price reductions, which are the econmic answer, are politically out of the question. This, then, is the other side of the coin of agricultural financing, the agreeement on which has in any case yet to be ratified by the parliaments of the Common Market countries.

The Council made headway into virgin territory in handing over parliamentary control of part of the Common Market's finances to the Strasbourg European Parliament.

A non-national parliament that is not yet directly elected is now able to pass judgment on cash provided by six sovereign countries. This very principle led in 1965 to the gravest crisis that has so far beset the EEC.

General de Gaulle punished his partners by pursuing an empty chair policy. His successor, M. Pompidou, has accepted the decision in principle to give the European Parliament a breath of life.

The economic community will be perfected, intensified and expanded — all three rendered possible by the line adopted at The Hague.

Perfection means the greater European domestic market that will be more than the sum of the national markets between which tariff barriers have already ceased to exist.

Intensification means full utilisation of the advantages of a large domestic market by means of cooperation, clearing of legal and fiscal obstacles, international mergers and common economic and monetary policy leading to a European currency union.

Expansion means EEC membership for Britain, Eire, Denmark and Norway.

The political will to make further progress towards economic intergration and to plug the integration gap has been reactivated. The political wheel has begun to turn again.

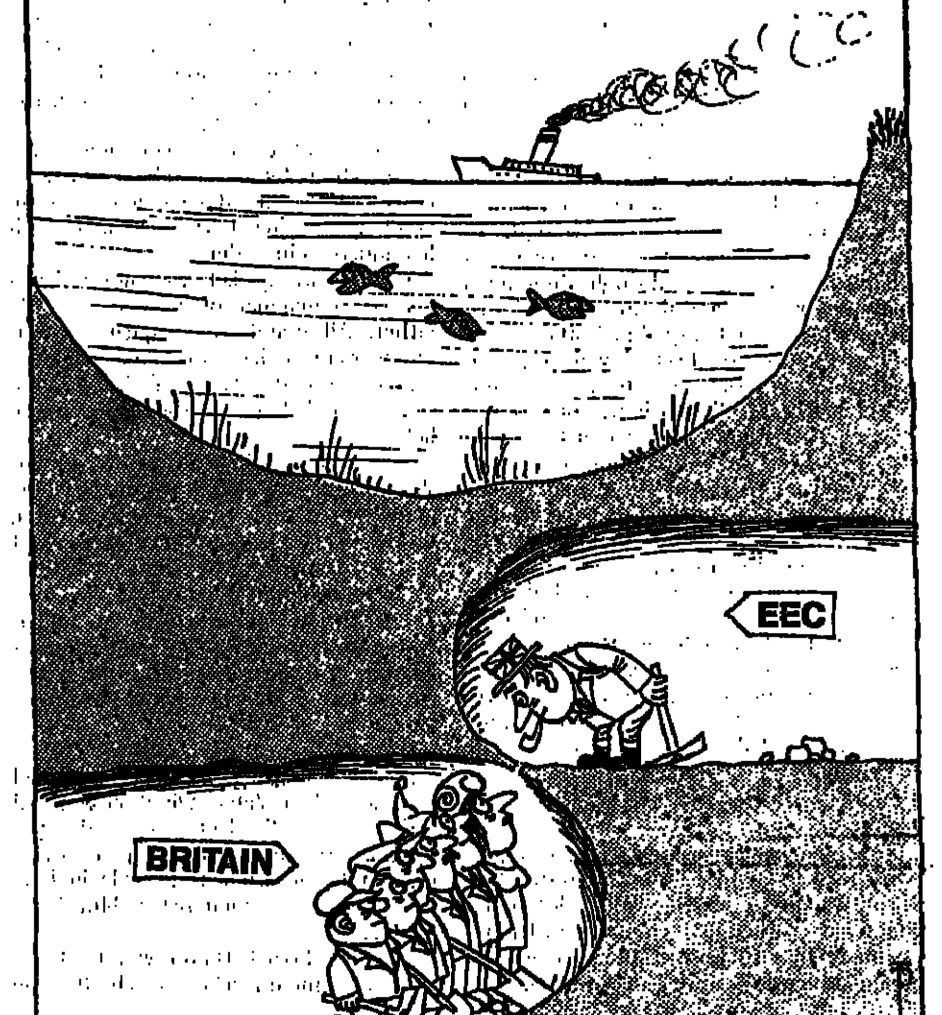
Always assuming that no unwelcome surprises occur the Six can expect by the end of this decade to form part of an economically integrated Europe.

But will there then be one European foreign policy or ten? Can France be persuaded to return to the integrated defence fold? Will the Commission remain a secretariat for dealing with joint matters or will it be granted rights of sovereignty?

Even after the successful all-night session in Brussels no clear answers to these questions are forthcoming. There can, though, be no doubt that the road to political integration, should a serious attempt to bring it about ever be decided on, will not be made any the more difficult by the progress towards economic integration that is now being made.

Rudolf Herlt

(DIE WELT, 9 February 1970)



The break - through

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Hannoversche Presse)

IN THIS ISSUE

Bonn's foreign policy is not one-sided

INTEGRATION IN WESTERN ALLIANCES GOES WITHOUT SAYING

In recent weeks the emissaries the Federal government has despatched to the East have made headlines almost every day. The impression that Bonn's foreign policy is one-sidedly orientated towards the East could easily arise, but it would be a superficial one.

The Federal government is active in the West too. It is merely that Bonn's diplomatic moves in the West no longer create such a stir. This country is so far integrated into Western alliances that policy towards the West has become a matter of course.

This was by no means always the case.



When Konrad Adenauer pressed ahead with policy towards the West in the mid-fifties and travelled to Paris, London and Washington his travels were outstanding political events.

The present Federal government's declared aim is to follow safeguards to the West with an attempt at normalisation to the East. With this aim in view offers designed to bring about an improvement in relations have been made to the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe.

For the first time since the establishment of the Federal Republic in 1949 there is movement on what used to be a rigid Eastern front. This movement takes the form of various negotiations Bonn diplomats are engaged or due to engage in in the Eastern Bloc.

The headlines Bonn envoys' travels make are also an indication that his country has foreign policy backlog to make good in respect of the East.

(Handelsblatt, 9 February 1970)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Stab - in - the - back view of Yalta is folly

Can an event belong to both the past and the present? This paradoxical question arises in connection with Yalta. Twenty-five years ago the Allies met in the Crimea to decide the fate of Germany. A fair number of today's political headlines are direct descendants of this one conference.

The state funeral Chancellor Brandt gave in his state of the nation address to hopes of reunification, long maintained against better judgment, was an admission that the division of Germany into zones of occupation decided at Yalta has in one instance hardened into a state frontier.

East Berlin's and Bonn's attempts to launch negotiations between the two German states, different though their aims may be, is also a link in the chain of developments first forged at Yalta.

The concept of Four-Power responsibility, which continues to play an important role in all considerations of policy on Berlin and the German Question, was conceived in Yalta, where Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin decided that "Great Britain, the United States of America and the Soviet Union will have full sovereignty in respect of Germany."

France was subsequently included as the fourth party to this full sovereignty.

No gift of prophecy is needed to forecast that the Oder-Neisse frontier will soon appear in headlines on the negotiations between this country and Poland. Stalin demanded this frontier for Poland at Yalta as compensation for the Polish Eastern territories annexed by the Soviet Union.

The Japanese Foreign Minister recently demanded in vain that Moscow return the Kurile islands. They too were allotted to Stalin at Yalta, this time in order to persuade him to join in the war against Japan alongside Britain and America.

So it is that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Yalta Conference provides the unusual opportunity of recalling a historic event of up-to-the-minute importance.

The terms of the agreement appear in many respects to be constructive proposals. Yet the actual consequences of a conference can seldom have contrasted so drastically with the agreements reached.

There was no mention of a division of Germany at Yalta. Quite the reverse. The Big Three agreed that after victory enemy territory was to have "coordinated administration by a central commission" consisting of the three commanders-in-chief and a French representative, with headquarters in Berlin.

Political straitjackets were not designed for the remainder of Europe at Yalta either. All countries occupied by Germany were to have their independence restored on the basis of the Atlantic Charter and free elections were to be held.

Stalin may well have laughed up his sleeve over an additional undertaking made by the three governments at Yalta, though. They pledged themselves to assist oppressed countries by holding elections wherever necessary.

The Soviet Union fulfilled this undertaking so conscientiously that in most Eastern European countries the Communists were able to assume power immediately.

It also looked as though a certain degree of independence for Poland had been agreed at Yalta. When all was said and done, Stalin had consented to a coalition of members of the basically democratic government in exile in London and the communist Lublin Committee.

Yet the Soviet Union was to break every agreement reached at Yalta that did not serve its own power-political and ideological interests.

This undeniable fact has lent force to a historical legend. It is a popular fallacy to assume that the two unsuspecting Western statesmen Churchill and Roosevelt allowed themselves to be fobbed off with empty promises at Yalta, so frivolously surrendering Central and Eastern Europe to the Communists.

This widespread explanation was seized on with particular gratitude in Germany because of its value as an alibi. Hitler, the argument ran, had of course started the war but the outcome need not have been so disastrous if only Roosevelt and Churchill had shown more backbone at Yalta and not been taken in by Stalin's duplicity.

There is as little truth in this international stab-in-the-back legend as there was in its national predecessor following the First World War.

When Stalin sat down at the Yalta conference table he already had Eastern Europe in the bag. In Germany his armies had reached Küstrin, Schneidemühl and Oppeln and in Eastern Europe they were everywhere on the advance.

It is extremely naive to imagine that a ruler so obsessed with violence and power as Stalin would have allowed himself to be deprived of his booty as a result of diplomatic pressure by his Western Allies.

In February 1945 not even the heaviest diplomatic artillery could have prevented the surrender of Central and Eastern Europe to the Soviet Union. Real guns would have to have spoken.

That is to say, Roosevelt and Churchill would have to have been prepared to follow the Second World War with the Third something psychologically impossible for democratic statesmen.

No. Yalta does not stand up to scrutiny as an alibi for this country. Viewed in historical terms this fateful conference was called by Hitler when he made strange bedfellows of the Western powers and the Soviet Union as a result of his world wide aggression.

Fritz von Globig

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 4 February 1970)

Premier Kosygin's Middle East dilemma

Wars often break out for reason[s of] insecurity, forward defence, a[s it] were. This is the situation in Egypt ri[ght] now; in Syria and Jordan too. All th[ree] have domestic instability in common.

Israel's war of attrition against Eg[ypt,] planned and in progress for months, [has] played its part. President Nasser's po[wer] and authority has visibly crumbled in [the] hail of Israeli bombs.

Soviet Premier Kosygin's latest mo[ve] must be viewed in this light. T[he] Kremlin's attitude is dominated by [an]xiety not to forfeit Arab friendship.

The cool calculators in Moscow [can] well imagine how long Soviet ships wo[uld] be allowed to berth in Alexandria w[ere] the Arab world to turn against the So[viet] Union.

The Kremlin thus has no alternativ[e but] to keep President Nasser in power. [He is] Moscow's man in the Middle East. W[ith] him stands and falls the Soviet dream [of a] permanent base in the Mediterranean.

From this angle Premier Kosyg[in's] move turns out to be an attempt to s[ave] Nasser. But the dilemma remains: H[ow] can Nasser be kept in power with[out] provoking direct confrontation with t[he] United States?

As yet the Soviet Union has not ma[de] mention of the fundamental issues, sta[bi]lisation of the Middle Eastern situati[on] and some guarantee of the existence [of] Israel. Which is why Moscow will fail [to] gain acceptance for its barefaced [de]mands.

One thing can be said with certai[nty.] Open warfare over the frontiers of I[srael] will not occur within the immedi[ate] future. An outbreak of this kind [is] unlikely. Acceptable political soluti[ons] will not be found immediately either.

Guerilla warfare, explosive tensi[on,] anarchy and all it entails will continue. [This] is a terrifying and dangerous state [of] affairs. Not only the peoples immediat[ely] concerned suffer as a result.

Will the great powers always be able [to] control the emotions and irrational a[cts] of the players on the Middle East[ern] stage?

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 February 19[70])

Warsaw talks pivotal to revitalise East Bloc policy

Never has Poland been in a better position; a buffer state to both East and West! This bon mot tinged with bitterness went the political rounds in Warsaw not long ago.

The function of a buffer state to the West now threatens to decline in importance. The first serious negotiations between this country and Poland began in Warsaw on 5 February with the aim of bringing about a normalisation of relations between the two countries.

The talks were preceded by an exchange of signals and a cautious probe of the other side's willingness to negotiate. The Polish government announced its readiness to parley on all issues of mutual interest and Bonn promptly echoed the sentiment.

On the quiet the Poles also indicated that they were prepared to negotiate a formula acceptable to the Federal government on recognition of the Oder-Neisse frontier.

What is more, there appears to be tacit agreement to treat all issues of mutual interest as a single package and not unnecessarily to make a separate issue of recognition of the Oder-Neisse frontier before progress has been made in other sectors.

Yet Bonn will hardly be harbouring illusions of establishing fruitful relations without first having acknowledged Poland's territorial integrity.

First Secretary Gomulka twelve years ago offered this country diplomatic relations regardless of the frontier issue but Chancellor Adenauer, standing by the Hallstein Doctrine, rejected the offer because Poland had an embassy in East Berlin and the Poles withdrew their proposal.

After a long spell of hilly relations a change in climate made itself apparent last year at the same time as the Soviet Union showed greater readiness to talk with this country, a development from which Poland did not want to be excluded.

The hostile distortion of realities in this country that used to be part and parcel of Polish mass media gave way to a more objective approach towards the end of the Bonn Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats.

At the same time unmistakeable changes in practical politics have taken place. At the memorable Warsaw Pact consultations early in 1967 that led to all communist countries except Rumania refraining from establishing diplomatic ties with Bonn Poland stood shoulder to shoulder with a nervous German Democratic Republic. Nowadays the Poles bear their own interests first and foremost in mind.

For years the head of the Federal Republic trade mission in Warsaw was not accepted as a suitable opposite number for discussion of political issues. Now he has one appointment after another in the Polish Foreign Ministry.

The view Warsaw has held since Wladyslaw Gomulka's unsuccessful approach of 1958 is that the establishment of diplomatic relations between countries is of no value unless relations are cordial. Bones of contention must be settled before the two countries exchange ambassadors. One of them is undoubtedly the Oder-Neisse frontier, which this country does not recognise.

It is hard to see what other obstacles there are, should Poland feel there to be any. Bonn has signed the non-proliferation treaty. Will Poland insist on recognition of the German Democratic Republic prior to the establishment of diplomatic ties?

The signs are that it will probably not. Regardless of all acts of solidarity with East Berlin the Polish government has at no stage committed itself to making the establishment of diplomatic relations with this country dependent on full recognition of the GDR by Bonn.

Poland is evidently prepared to countenance a certain amount of friction with the GDR. Economic considerations are doubtless the main but hardly the sole motive behind Warsaw's will to come to better terms with this country.

The Poles are interested in a reduction of confrontation in Europe provided the status quo is safeguarded. Increased co-operation between East and West could not but further Poland's development.

The commencement of negotiations is of importance for this country too. Quite apart from reconciliation between the two countries, which is long overdue, it is felt to be as good as certain that Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria would immediately follow suit were Warsaw and Bonn to agree to normalise relations.

Pierre Simonitsch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 February 1970)

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■ INTER GERMAN RELATIONS

GDR citizens discuss recognition

Frankfurter Allgemeine

To a certain extent the situation is paradoxical. Not only in East Berlin, but also in this section of Germany scarcely a day passes without there being talk of some kind of recognition of the GDR by the Bonn government — be it political or social recognition.

At his press conference in December 1967 Albert Norden spoke with a continuing air of caution about the concepts "home and abroad". Here he first broached the idea of possible diplomatic relations between the Federal Republic and the GDR.

After the new government in Bonn was formed the Socialist Unity Party (SED) let their strictly exercised caution slip.

The creation of usual relationships between sovereign states as between the two parts of Germany, including opening up diplomatic relations has been, since the December plenary meeting of the SED and Ulbricht's draft of a treaty, no longer the maximum achievement to be striven for over a long period, but expressly the minimum requirement.

On the other hand in this country experts on international law have been quarrelling among themselves. One of the main points of disagreement between the politicians and commentators involved has been whether a motivated recognition within State law would quickly lead to a recognition of an East German State within international law.

Insofar as the idea carefully nurtured in the GDR of a revanchistic, reactionary West Germany infested with the deadly National Democrat bacillus is wearing thinner all the time the SED is constantly searching for a new "bogey man" with which it can keep its own people in order and give this as a reason for the continuing curtailment of freedom.

It would be grossly exaggerated to speak of a great movement among the people "over there", but the growing political interest or quite simply the curiosity about what is cooking in Bonn is unmistakeable.

In other words the Socialist Unity Party has sensed, particularly among younger people, a certain attraction towards Social Democracy. It is hoped to track this down by asking questions about the problems of awareness of Socialist party history.

Students have been handed a questionnaire totalling thirty sides which they may answer anonimously, questions such as: "What do you understand by solving today's national question?

a) If a unified national state has been formed?

or b) If all who live in a certain territory recognise that they are a nation and act as a nation?

or c) If, led by their Marxist-Leninist independence and national self-determination by the working classes, national unity is achieved on the basis of peace, democracy and progress? "

Furthermore at the same time as it is being laconically stated in *Neues Deutschland* that the German nation was unquestionably split twenty years ago, the SED would like to know from its students: "How can the national question in Germany be solved?

a) If both sides in both German states give way?

or b) If Socialism and Capitalism grow so close together as a result of the technical revolution that gradually the differences between the two German states vanish?

or c) If the working classes and progressive forces in the Federal Republic overcome imperialism and militarism and form with the German Democratic Republic a unified, socialist German national state?

or d) Are you of the opinion that speedy progress in socialistic development in the German Democratic Republic will make reunification and with it the solution of the national question in Germany impossible? "

It appears that the results of this survey which was preceded by the distribution of certain opposition pamphlets at East Berlin's Humboldt University rather increased than diminished the scepticism of the SED about the possibility and the sense of political negotiations with Bonn.

For ideas about a "third way" have, since there has been a Social Democrat-led government in Bonn, had a greater attraction than previously among intellectuals and politically concerned parties in the German Democratic Republic.

It is for this reason that East Berlin wants to find a pretext for postponing such discussions. That is why the SED has called the appointment of the Minister for Inter German Relations as head of the discussion team a blatant provocation.

SED chairman Ulbricht at a press conference on 19 January, discussing the character of the Minister, stated that he may well be responsible for relationships between North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony . . .

He did not actually say that he considered the Minister unsuitable for discussing important matters with East Berlin, but he implied it.

Bonn is also of the opinion that East Berlin will act immediately and publish the Chancellor's letter, but at the same time it will explain the content of Ulbricht's draft treaty.

It is just as possible that instead of sending a reply that would occasion another reaction on Brandt's part the German Democratic Republic government would simply employ the tried and tested means of an official commentary in *Neues Deutschland*! Or it may reject the Bonn government's declarations in one of the next speeches of some Politbüro member or other.

East Berlin's main concern at the moment is to play for time in the hope that at a later date most, if not all, of the problems will have righted themselves.

A similar thing happened during the Prague spring. The SED hopes to get away with this one in a similar manner.



Old ghosts don't make up a sovereign state!

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/VORWÄRTS)

In order to dispel excessive hope among the population of the German Democratic Republic the SED is taking a sharper line against Bonn. At the end of January there was a protest note against the sharp practice and impudence of sole representation at the International Postal Congress in Tokyo, which had taken place two months before.

Another possibility is to hold up transit traffic to Berlin which the Chancellor has quite rightly calles "a policy with purely nuisance value", shovelling political differences of opinion on to the backs of innocent weekend travellers and long-distance lorry drivers.

Nothing is expected to change in the near future. The Federal Republic central government in Bonn will in any case have to find a large reserve of patience and nonchalance in order to cross this desert to the next oasis.

In the opinion survey in the German Democratic Republic one of the subjects answered the question: "Are you proud to be a citizen of the German Democratic Republic and be counted among the conquerors of history? " by ticking one of the answers provided and writing an obstinate and comprehensive "Not particularly".

Contradictions will remain and as a result of them East Berlin will make persistent efforts to postpone negotiations with this country's government for as long as possible and if possible to put them off altogether. *Dettmar Cramer*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 30 January 1970)

GDR officials ask travellers intimate questions

Marienborn checkpoint has recently been the scene of more delays to people travelling to Berlin. They have been subjected to hours of interrogation by GDR officials.

Travellers across the Zone report that they have been forced to divulge personal information to uniformed and plain-clothed GDR officials, for instance details of their income and living conditions as well as the frequency and reasons for their visits to Berlin.

Brunswick and Hanover have not to date heard of any motives or political aims for this prying into personal affairs.

Officials at Federal Republic passport and customs offices and officers of the border protection squad report similar incidents at other crossing points.

Results of the surveys are presumably to be used for propaganda purposes This is not the first time that GDR men at the Marienborn-Helmstedt crossing point have asked travellers from this country prepared politically slanted questions.

It is thought that the GDR is using the material collected in this way to carry out its own census on the Federal Republic, in order to compare and contrast social and living conditions in the two sections of this country and later use this propaganda.

(Münchner Merkur, 3 February 1970)

Paving the way for trade union contacts

The DGB's letter to the FDGB in the GDR is of historic importance. The letter, offering to open negotiations to discuss the possibilities for contacts between unions in this country and the GDR follows the relationships that have been forged between working men in this country and other Warsaw Pact nations.

The GDR could not be left out in the cold for long, although there were certain differences to be taken into account.

DGB President Vetter emphasised the aspect of independence from the Bonn government. But at the same time he wrote to his "worthy colleague Warnke", President of the FDGB, that the DGB's aim was, every bit as much as that of the Bonn government, to break down the barriers for good relationships between men in the two parts of Germany.

This will be the critical point of union contacts. In the German Democratic Republic the leaders of the government and top men in the FDGB have strong ideological and organisational links.

Up till now government leaders there have swept the problem of human contact under the carpet and concentrated on the question of recognisation of their State.

If the FDGB insists on making recognition the chief item on the aganda and the DGB maintains that human contact must have priority the two sides will just talk past each other.

Quite rightly the DGB is not keen to get involved in the question of recognition of the GDR, since it does not feel itself competent to tackle this matter.

Mention made of other themes for discussion such as the unions' educational and vocational training policies is only of secondary importance in this letter.

The DGB has made it a prerequisite that each side should be able to express its opinions in the publications of the other.

This proviso is likely to put the FDGB in as much of a quandary as the SED found itself in, when it was faced with the suggestion that Willy Brandt and Herbert Wehner should be allowed to speak freely in GDR announcements and communiques.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 February 1970)

■ MASS MEDIA

Broadcasting monopoly threatened

Claims are being made that the Federal state government of the Saar is on the point of licensing an independent radio or television company. But various last-minute developments could delay this and possibly endanger it altogether.

The Prime Minister of the Saar could go down in the history of this country's radio and television media.

But it is easy to understand that this chance, as doubtful as it is, alarms him when he thinks of it. The burden of responsibility must weigh heavily on his shoulders. The prospect of entering the annals as an unfortunate also-ran is greater than that of becoming a haloed reformer — that is if he acts and does not prefer wisely to refrain.

Action would mean licensing an independent radio and television station. And this would mean that the legal position of this country's broadcasting services would be irrevocably destroyed. The consequences would be great.

It is therefore not only a question of one independent company with limited plans of transmitting radio broadcasts over an area stretching from the Saar to the Ruhr and further east to Hanover.

The question is whether there should continue to be a monopoly by the public companies. Once this monopoly is broken there can be no stopping the breach, neither with regard to area nor to the type of broadcasting. Though at present plans for independent television seem to have been shelved for technical and financial reasons. Technical developments in this field will cause many surprises.

Who likes defending a monopoly? There can never be too wide an airing of opinions or dissemination of information. But it is not a question here of competition of the same sort of company, nor competition between public and private companies. Here we see commercial and non-profit-making ventures shoulder to shoulder.

Even though applicants for licences say that they are not only concerned with making a profit but that one of their main concerns is the multiplicity of opinion their stations will have to live from advertising and they will thus be commercial stations. The significance of this can be seen abroad. It means courting the public and a lowering of standards.

The reputation of this country's radio and television production, said by some to bear comparison with almost any in the rest of the world, is based on the fact that public companies only have to obey public wishes to a certain limit. Because of their legal organisation they are remarkably independent of the State, groups, associations and the public. And this is all due to its monopoly.

Improvements could be made, many things are not ideal. Many sections are uneconomic and too much equalisation and proportionalism has a paralysing effect.

But these difficulties cannot be overcome just by breaking the monopoly. This is all the more true as the public stations will not be joined by comparable companies but, for the foreseeable future, only by a number of local and regional commercial enterprises.

As long as there are newspapers limits are set to the monopoly of broadcasting. Many newspaper publishers say that this is the very point. Radio and television are threatening the future of newspapers, they claim, and their monopoly is growing.

If this were true then the multiplicity of opinion would indeed be in danger. Nobody would like to rely on them being preserved within companies that were growing more and more powerful.

But is this the case? As things stand at the moment it does not seem to be. Evidence shows that radio and television bring newspapers readers because they arouse interest yet are unable to satisfy it. Admittedly it is conceivable that this position could change.

One development that could change the position depends on the future of technology. Imagination has free rein. A thorough-going change in communications technology cannot be ruled out. In the development of future methods in telecommunication the communications industry must have a foot in the door so that newspapers too can benefit.

This must be possible even without the roundabout way of commercial transmitters. Moreover on this roundabout publishers could be tempted to wind up their newpapers if there happened to be more money in commercial stations.

Another development is imminent. Local programmes, even those by public companies, would endanger the existence of some local papers. Their numbers are falling anyway.

There seems little need for local programmes and certainly little objective necessity. Broadcasting stations should not embark upon this. If they were to accept advertising in these local programmes they would be forgoing every argument against the demand that these local programmes should be the domain of independent stations where the newspapers affected would participate.

Advertising is the one thing that does not harmonise with the monopoly of the public companies. This is unfortunately not altered by the fact that the economy has an interest in advertising over the air.

Doing without advertising is the price for an organisation that is near to perfection. And this would be the most certain way for the public companies to defend their monopoly.

Bruno Dechamps

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 January 1970)

Studio Hamburg goes into private ownership

Kieler Nachrichten

There was a surprising end to a controversy concerning the change in ownership of Studio Hamburg, one of the most modern film and television studios in Europe.

Hours of discussion resulted in North German Radio (NDR) and the Studio parting. Gyula Trebitsch, up to now partner and managing director, will for the time being be sole owner.

According to agreements made Trebitsch will take over the eighty per cent of the shares belonging to North German Advertising Television (NWF), a subsidiary of NDR. He already owns the other twenty per cent.

Trebitsch announced that he wants both home and foreign publishers and private business to participate in Studio Hamburg.

One of the main interested parties on Trebitsch's list is the Axel Springer company which had been promised [illegible] per cent of the Studio shares by NWF and NDR.

This decision by the controlling board of the broadcasting company, dictated by economic considerations, aroused violent political dispute. A spokesman for Springer assured that the publishing house was not trying to obtain a majority holding in Studio Hamburg.

Names of other possible partners for Trebitsch are doing the rounds in Hamburg. The Hamburg information service *text intern* names Hamburg publisher John Jahr senior, and the colleagues from the near-by Federal state of Schleswig-Holstein, Consul Ehrlich of the Lübecker Nachrichten, Heinz Mö[illegible] of the Schleswig-Holsteinische Landeszeitung of Rendsburg and H.-G. Paulus of Itzehoe's Norddeutsche Rundschau as interested parties.

The new situation followed on from a control council session of the NWF that lasted well into the night. The solution was pointed to by Trebitsch who once again showed himself to be a skilled bargainer. His proposal to take over all the Studio Hamburg shares was approved with only one dissenting vote. The NDR administrative council, consisting of [illegible] SPD and four CDU representatives immediately gave its consent.

The way out of the political dilemma brings into the centre of interest a man who is considered to be one of the most knowledgeable connoisseurs and most clever managers of the film industry.

Trebitsch, born in Budapest in 191[illegible], rose from the ranks of the industry. He began at Ufa's Budapest establishment. He produced his first film at the age of 24.

In 1947 Trebitsch came to Hamburg where he joined Walter Koppel to found Real Film. He turned the first primitive studios in the suburb of Wandsbek into a film town with worldwide connections. Today the studio covers an area of about 700,000 square feet and includes [illegible] buildings.

The company employs 1,200 people in 125 different professions. During the discussions of the past few weeks the staff recommended that Springer should have 35 per cent participation in the company.

Studio Hamburg, now completely private, contributes its share towards maintaining the international reputation of the city. The Studio has business relations with over forty countries.

One field in which Trebitsch sees lucrative opportunities in the future is that of educational television.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 2 February 1970)

The truth behind the latest press clashes

At the moment there are few signs that the present process of polarisation is this country's press can be slowed down.

Talks between government and Opposition do not produce the impression that it can be brought under control in the near future.

So before the air is filled with uproar there should be a few comments and observations.

First, the Christian Democrats and the Christian Socialists are appearing in a completely new role as defenders of extreme press freedom. They have set up a commission headed by Ernst Benda, formerly Minister of the Interior, that is to investigate the SPD's attempts to suppress freedom of opinion in the Federal Republic. Any journalist who feels suppressed should contact the commission.

CDU General Secretary Bruno Heck has, in his own special way, called on the governing Social Democrats to accustom themselves to a certain extent to the fact that the wind of opposition is blowing from the Springer group of newspapers and that the views of the Federal government are being attacked.

If the SPD's attempts to suppress the press and the party's inability to tolerate criticism were the main concern here Heck would be right and we would support the CDU/CSU in the same way as they have become one of the main supports of this country's second television channel, especially as Social Democratic history has shown that the party and freedom of opinion have been inseparable.

But to clear the air a little, the Opposition's motives must be exposed. Then we see in its unselfish attempts to preserve the freedoms efforts to spread fear about an imminent collectivism and a coordination of the communications media by the Federal government. Axel Springer's ragings against national treason, against Brandt and his advisers as well as against ARD television is accordingly described harmlessly as natural opposition to those in power.

What is the truth behind the terror unleashed by the Federal government against everything and everybody who does not sing its praises?

There is the controversy between SPD spokesmen on the one hand and the second television channel, primarily the programme *Magazin* and Gerhard Löwenthal of the programme on the other.

There is also the strong criticism by SPD business manager Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski of the Springer press that this group of newspapers was creating opposition at any price.

In the case of the second television channel it was asked whether Löwenthal's partiality was not a contravention of the state contract setting up the company.

To put it in a nutshell, this part of the clash was stupidly managed by government. By turning its guns on a television reporter the SPD was only copying the manner in which the CDU long destroyed propriety.

Wischnewski's attacks on Springer are another thing. Wischnewski did not criticise the fact that the government was being criticised but that the concern's newspapers always had to write their news under the headline "Brandt wishes to abandon positions".

He did not say, as Heck insinuated, that the wind of opposition was blowing from there. Wischnewski spoke of opposition at any price and also of coordination of a press empire.

This form of rebuke is possible as it is political. It cannot be said that it is a threat to the freedom of the press. It concerns something quite different, something that has been discussed for quite a while, the freedoms of the press.

The Social Democratic Party and this country's second television channel have reached a compromise. The cross-fire is to ease and Gerhard Loewenthal is to remain the coordinator of the second television service 'Magazin.'

What however is disturbing is the figure of the spokesman. The SPD has personalities whose views are worth more and who are less vulnerable than others.

At present however nobody, whoever he may be, will gain a hearing with Springer. Because of increasing polarisation the papers of the concern all say in one voice that they are doing nothing other than opposing the views of the government.

Claus Heinrich Meyer

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 January 1970)

■ RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

Church must concentrate on essentials

Confusion and insecurity, loss of both inner and outer substance, but also the desire and will for therapeutic reforms characterise the Churches — the Protestant ones at least — as they enter a new decade.

The structural unity of German Protestantism has been broken by political realities. Gone is the hope that the Church could arbitrate to the benefit of humanity between two different social systems.

But even more dismaying is the process of inner division. The Church seems to be on the way to dissolving into innumerable factions and groups or even individuals, all fighting among themselves and irreconcilable. Last year's Church Congress at Stuttgart suddenly illuminated the situation.

In the face of this the positive side of the balance sheet proves to be modest. But it still justifies the hope of all those who refuse to sink into fatalistic resignation.

Reports should also be made of a unrest that is health-giving. This has now finally risen from small committed reform districts to Church authorities and synods. There is now a broad front challenging the traditional, antiquated structure of hierarchical Churches and the absurdities of the state church tradition.

Bishops, among them Lilje, Wölber and Beckmann, have long belonged to the group of those pledging themselves to a geographic and inner-denominational cleansing of the parishes. After uncommonly sluggish talks the North Elbe Church seems to be within striking distance.

This and the fact that talks between representatives of the Lutheran, Reformed and United Churches have obviously been intensified justifies the hope that Protestantism in this country will close ranks in the seventies. Theological and geographic relics of the late Middle Ages that are no longer relevant will be thrown overboard.

"Concentration on the essential", should be the Church's decisive slogan for its actions in the new decade. The seventies have begun with a remarkably large number of people leaving the Church. This development is at the moment limited to the main centres of population. In the last few weeks this has been interpreted in many ways, all depending on standpoint.

The most remarkable comment in this context comes from a bishop. In his New Year sermon Kurt Scharf spoke of a healthy sifting process. This is remarkable as cause and effect have obviously been confused here. The exodus must be the result of the crisis within the Church and not its cause. What is also remarkable, more than anything else, is the selfrighteousness that has already become symptomatic.

Doubts set in as to whether the Church will really summon up the necessary energy to concentrate on essentials when one of its bishops is obviously of the opinion that it needs only to concentrate on the core and can moreover cut its connections with all waverers, the uncertain, the doubting and the discontented.

Those who defend the thesis that the Church should return to health by reducing numbers and excluding more Sunday morning Christians are assuming a judgement that seems to us to be obstructing all human understanding. This sort of attitude cannot be justified by referring to the Bible. A Church that had withdrawn in resignation to the belief that there was no cure could have forfeited the right to call itself a Church.

Concentration on essentials should first be an undismayed effort to explain the Gospel for people of our age so clearly that the many doubters still have a reason for hope.

But theologians, probably seeing that their preaching has become insecure and has lost its power of conviction, continually take refuge in new activities. They indulge in differences of theological opinion that lay folk are unable to follow or produce whole series of socio-political theses.

Driven forward by the not always constructive unease of predominantly young people, theologians allow themselves to be mislead more and more into acting purely according to the term "righteousness" and neglect compassion and mercy.

When politics concerns people and peace the Churches must enter the political arena. But must they and their clergymen get involved in day-to-day political and party-political events?

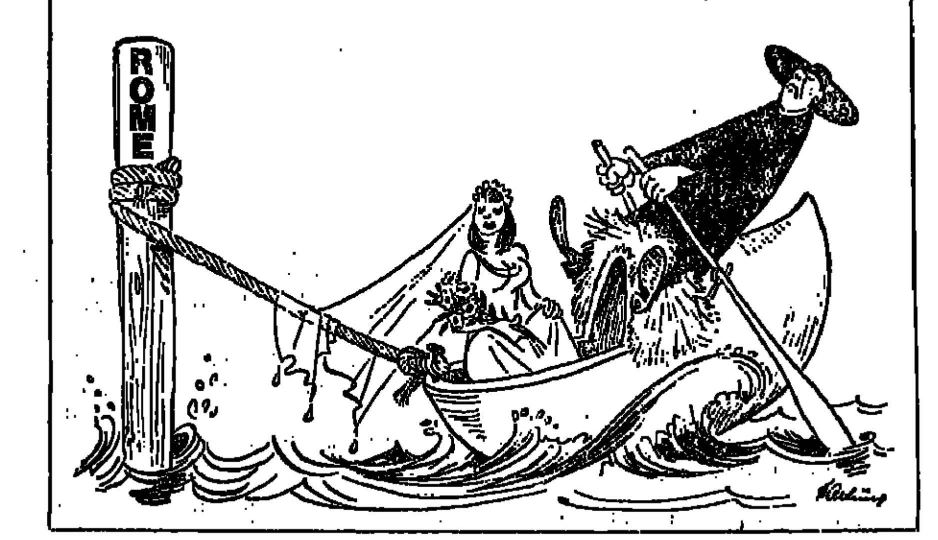
Conversion to the world is a demand that can be heard frequently at present. Indeed the Church should and must open itself to the world though not with exclusively political intentions.

Urgency seems to be imperative. Churches and synods should set themselves the task of interpreting Matthew 28, "Go forth and make disciples of all nations . . ., teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

If discussion should result in a political and not a therapeutic demand there is the danger that foundations such as the right-wing Emergency Community of German Evangelists and the left-wing Celle Conference, now dissolved, will no longer be isolated phenomena.

Political sermons charactorised by a theology of revolution are no less a danger to the Church than the paeans of praise paid to monarchs before 1914.

It is more necessary than ever that the Churches think not only of their functions but also of their limits. A Church that wants not only to be a Church but also a world, a Church that believes it should commit itself in every sphere and replace politicians runs the risk in our pluralistic society of degenerating into one interest group among many and presumably not even a large one. This way into the world would be a cul-de-sac.



There's no release! (Cartoon: Hartung/DIE WELT)

The Church is at the moment in a process of thoroughgoing change. Bit by bit it is surrendering its once almost unlimited authority. This does not mean that the Church has to suffer. The decisive factor will be if it manages to fill the vacuum with reforms concerning the position of the clergy and lay people, of the service and the work of the synods, of the structure of the parishes and the present state Churches.

The Church does not however become contemporary and modern just because parsons appear in the pulpit in everyday wear or pews are replaced by table-tennis boards. It is not on the right course, as was maintained at the Stuttgart Church Congress, just because these events bear the stamp of the younger generation. The fact that many members of the older generations withdraw in resignation should be considered as an alarming symptom.

Ecclesiastical differences are becoming sterner and sterner. And the various groups are becoming more and more self-righteous and irreconcilable in claiming that they alone speak the truth and that other groups are heretics. This spectacle leads more and more people to the conviction that it is no longer worth going to church.

Among the essentials that the Church, both theologians and laymen, must consider as soon as possible is a pronouncement that contains compassion and tolerance as well as righteousness.

Parsons and the laity who exult when people of contrary opinion turn their backs on the Church are cheering the decline of the Church. For a Church that divides into a group believing in the Bible and a politically and socially committed section ceases to be a Church. Revolutionary activism in the social field committed without reflection leads to difficulties as surely as unreflecting belief in the Bible.

Ludwig Harms

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 January 1970)

Church attendance decreases

Since 1962 fewer and fewer citizens of the Federal Republic have been attending Sunday services in Protestant and Catholic churches, according to three surveys conducted by the Institute of Applied Sociology (Infas) in Bad Godesberg, near Bonn.

These results show that 37 per cent of the population went to church every Sunday in the autumn of 1969. The 1962 figure was 45 per cent and the 1966 figure 39 per cent.

According to Infas attendance decreased three per cent more among the Catholic population. Disinterest in the Church increased more in the young and middle-aged than in the over-65's. The Institute found a decline in church-going in all social groups.

But the two denominations show different results when it comes to the degree of attendance. In the autumn of 1969 58 per cent of Catholics turned out to be regular church-goers, compared with the 1962 figure of 68 per cent.

The Protestant figure over the same period was 21 per cent, compared with the 1962 figure of 28 per cent.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 23 January 1970)

Working group submits proposals for care of mixed marriages

A memorandum on the question of mixed marriages and recommendations as to spiritual guidance in marriages between members of different denominations has just been produced by the inter-denominational working group for questions of marriage and family.

The memorandum, entitled "Christian Unity in Marriage", was submitted to Cardinal Döpfner, Chairman of this country's Episcopal Conference, and Bishop Dietzfelbinger, Council Chairman of the Protestant Church in Germany.

Many prominent theologians of both Churches belong to the inter-denominational working group that has been dealing with this question for a number of years after being commissioned by the Protestant and Catholic Central Institute for Questions of Marriage and Family.

In the memorandum the view is taken that a common Christian understanding of marriage would represent a reliable foundation for closer cooperation between the Churches in this question.

The working group demands that the decision concerning the religious upbringing of children should rest primarily with the parents.

The Churches are also called upon to recognise marriages that take place only at registry offices for reasons of conscience as conclusive marriages as they are a public manifestation of the will to marry.

The inter-denominational working group has submitted proposals for the joint spiritual cure of marriages between members of different Churches, in particular those that take place in registry offices. This should rescue them from an ecclesiastical no man's land. The Churches are called upon to undertake joint action to create the institutional pre-conditions.

On many points the present position of the Church is still opposed to a satisfactory solution of the question of mixed marriages. But the working group sees no reason why this should be an obstacle to taking all possible steps towards joint Church action.

The recommendations of the working group on inter-denominational marriages have also been published in book form.

At present the inter-denominational working group is dealing with the problem of divorcees and remarried divorcees.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 January 1970)

■ SHAKESPEARE

'As you like it' lives up to its title in Munich



William Shakespeare has for a long time been the favourite subject for experiment of progressive drama directors.

Examples are to be found in Bremen, Stuttgart and Basle. They are not really attempts to discover the Bard of Avon.

They are usually far more a portrait of their director and often an extravagant and intelligent rethink of the original play.

It would not be unkind to say that with material like Shakespeare just about anything can be done, but whatever is, a little of the Bard's original poetry will still shine through.

Four men were involved in work on "As you like it", which has now been performed with great success on the stage of the Munich Residenztheater. There was Eschenburg, Shakespeare's first German translator, Schlegel, the Romantic, Johannes Schaaf, the director and Urs Jenny the theatre's dramatic producer.

The four cooks were not too many to spoil the broth of the text, which was largely very tasteful. Schlegel's often overromantic lyricism was pruned heavily and quite rightly so, but the director Johannes Schaaf shifted the accent of the play.

The coarse scenes were the centre of the action, the love and confusion plots were pushed into the background.

Schaaf's scenes were like numerous little mosaic stones which are placed at random, making a clear picture impossible, and eliminating continuous action.

The programme claims that the motive forces behind the play are madness, idiocy, tomfoolery and love, This is immediately expressed by Wilfried Minks' stage sets. He has vaulted walls, artificial bright green palms and the spotted bathtub that must come into the play far too often.

In the background there is a kind of church boutique, where people sing, play the organ and finally get married.

At the end the setting is completed by the addition of a great mound of sand over which the actors scramble, which they throw at each other and from which they peer out.

Once again the fact has been established that whatever actors are given to do they will do it without question.

Take for example Herbert Mensching whose hands are fastened in a block of wood, by which he is pulled off the ground and left dangling, tortured, his feet threshing in the air.

Peter Fricke has to plunge his head several times into the bathtub filled with water. There are other Fasching type jokes too numerous to mention.

The much used sand mound has to represent among other things the coast of Illyria on which the company is shipwrecked so that a change of scene is not necessary.

This is all good and imaginative, but it does tend to slow down the vital tempo of the play. A long-drawn-out comedy is like a rubberband stretched too far. It loses its force and for long passages it bores. Such passages were in abundance at this production.

Schaaf wanted to turn Malvolio into a tragic figure. He failed.

The director presumably had in mind the representation of this character dictated by the English actor Peter Quennell over seven years ago.

He claimed that Malvolio should be considered among the tragic characters of stage history. His situation is without doubt tragic, although it is here portrayed with comic freedom.

It has been said that like Shylock Malvolio is also a loner, unable to escape his inner loneliness and for this reason mocked by his fellow men and abused by them.

If Schaaf was thinking along these lines, which I do not doubt, he has failed to turn human beings into tragic figures.

Max Mairisch, the fool, enters in a broadly cut clown's outfit. The final song and his melancholy exit were excellent.

Lambert Hamel played the drunkard Tobias. He was extremely humorous and gave a convincing performance. He was, however, pushed a little too hard by the director, for instance in the great laughing scene, with Gaby Dohm and Horst Sachleben.

It is hard to believe that it was possible to love Hans Michael Rebert's role of Orsino madly. Attired as a beatnik Rebert seemed excessively brutal, noisy and never lyrical.

His entrance monologue: "If music be the food of love, play on," was growled hysterically.

Christine Ostermayer's performance as Viola was some sort of consolation and not only a joy to the eye.

She was a dynamic, charming creature armed in baroque style jewellery with long riding boots, a decorative chevalier à la mode.

This was proof of the fact that it is possible to stage the plays of the immortal Bard without excessive indulgence bordering on a riot.

With Otto Bolesch indisposed the director himself stood in in the small part of Antonio playing it with great decency.

The effect of using baroque music as temporal colour was beautiful.

Tenor John van Kesteren sang songs by English composers of the Elizabethan era.

(DIE WELT, 27 January 1970)



A scene from Ionesco's 'Triumph of Death'
(Photo: Lore Bermbach)

Playwright Ionesco attends Düsseldorf premiere

A few days after Eugene Ionesco was solemnly accepted into the Academie Française and joined the ranks of the "immortals" he came to Düsseldorf to see the premiere of his new play *The Triumph of Death*.

He drew on the same source for this play as Camus for his novel *La Peste* and his play *State of Siege*, namely Daniel Defoe's diary: *The Plague of London 1665*.

But Ionesco has not discovered any moral or political meaning in the material. He simply sets out to show death as the inescapable reality. He tries to cure us of the fear of death with his bitter tasting humour.

The play begins with people walking through the streets of a big city and swapping foolish nothingnesses in refined and cleverly interwoven dialogue.

Suddenly a curious passer-by notices that the twins in a pram have turned black and died. A quarrel breaks out about guilt and repentance, but one after the other the characters swear their innocence and drop down dead.

This certainly shows that the great game of massacres need not shock and horrify, but is also capable of making people laugh, particularly about the threat and nagging uncertainty of everything.

Soon the burgomaster appears on the street with his golden chain of office and proclaims that just as in mediaeval times when a town was threatened with the plague, nobody may leave a house that had been struck by the disease. He announces a state of emergency.

He climbs up into an auditorium and claims that a sign is to be posted on the gates saying: "Lord have mercy on us".

Ionesco's dance of death does not seek consolation in metaphysics but sets out to expose the crazy ways of human behaviour.

Even in a situation such as this the conflict between uptown and downtown does not cease. Literary highbrows flaunt themselves vainly, doctors air their learned opinions, a mother decks out her daughter for the ball, the warder at the jail opens all gates since something more dangerous is keeping watch, the police open fire and liquidate themselves, two men find their way into the town despite the military cordon and speak simultaneously the same dialogue but the one dies by the side of his young wife and the other helps her over her grief.

The play culminates in the nocturnal stroll of an old couple. The woman confesses: "Every moment of life enchants me."

He finds this incomprehensible. The older he grew the more his astonishment about the world paled. He says: "I don't know how you could keep your admiration of this life intact. For me every minute is too burdensome and too empty at the same time. Everything is horrible. In my fear of death I only bore myself."

Now the old woman dies. "The joy was there. Only I never recognised it."

The incomprehensible seems to happen and the plague is subsiding. In anger women plunder a dress shop, then the town is encircled with fire and death is inevitable.

It appears wearing the black cowl of a monk, staring and pulling behind it the dead-wagon of plague victims. Sweet the blonde nun (Evelyne Balser) throws herself yelling at his breast.

Ionesco knows why he has trusted in Heinz Stroux since *Rhinoceros*.

Stroux had perfect success in sphere where all young directors dream of success. He dressed his cast in woollies and put it under the control of choreographer Jose Gomez.

The words were balletic but completely in tune with the lightness of gesture. Large and small parts interchanged. Scenically speaking Ionesco's humour that takes its life from grief was dominant.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 26 January 1970)

Latin America comes to the Ruhr

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

For the first time people in this country can look forward to a festival of film shorts in Oberhausen, from 12 to 18 April, with a comprehensive programme of Latin American shorts beside the retrospective Cuban works and the Cuban competition entries.

At the same time this is a first chance to study at length and in detail the various groups of political documentary films made in Latin America.

Fernando Solanas and his agitation film "The Hour of the Blast Furnaces" were, two years ago, the first to draw attention to this category of independent filmmaking in Latin America.

His work gave many other directors the impulse to make similar films. At the moment there are three groups, all of which will exhibit examples of their work at Oberhausen.

The programme was compiled by a Brazilian filmmaker and the West Berlin cinema critic Peter B Schumann.

As last year the prospective Federal Republic entries will be shown a few days before the festival commences. The public will be able to see them between 23 and 26 March in Oberhausen. The selection of successful entries will then be made by all filmmakers and critics from the Federal Republic and West Berlin who are present.

Prior to this a panel was set up consisting of filmmakers and critics to make the initial selection of who was to be represented in Oberhausen.

Members of this panel were the directors, Dr Erika Runge, Werner Herzog, Werner Nekes, Hannes Fuchs and Helmuth Costard along with critics, Ulrich Gregor, Werner Kliess, Dr P.W. Jansen, Heinz Ungureit and Michael Lentz.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 25 January 1970)

■ THEATRE

Böll novel dramatised at Düsseldorf

Hannoversche Allgemeine

This is not the premiere of a drama by Heinrich Böll, following in the footsteps of *A Mouthful of Earth* that was performed years ago. Nor is it a dramatisation of his novel *Views of a Clown*. That must be stressed at the very beginning.

Maria and Alfred Radok, the Prague producers, have rather produced a stage version of the book written by Böll in 1962.

Its premiere, held within the programme of ceremonies to open Düsseldorf's new theatre, was greeted with wild applause by the audience. An earlier stage version, though unauthorised by Böll, has already been performed in Moscow.

The Clown, as the drama is called, cannot be considered as a play in the dramatic sense of the world.

Böll's book describes the tragic fate of Hans Schnier, an industrialist's son with the Catholic background of post-war Bonn society. Political practices from the unfortunate fusion of religion and creed force him to flee from middle-class society into the self-imposed exile of his life as a clown. Though this outsider realises his weaknesses and his failure.

Only fragmentary excerpts of this can be put on stage. Böll himself describes this stage venture modestly as being removed from his prose.

Radok wishes to make clear the process of conviction with the possibilities offered by the theatre. He reduces the events, concentrating them entirely around the figure of the clown, removing them from reality to the unrealness of memory that transcends both time and space and sets up its own reality. Past, present and future have no fixed bounds and merge one into the other during the play.

To this end Radok uses, apart from music (Jacques de Lescaut) and pantomime (choreography by Elmar Gehlen), the concrete methods of projection and film.

The play takes place in the circus ring where Hans Schnier acts as clown, telling at the same time the story of his life that occupies his thoughts. It is a lament about his lost love, Marie, who left him because he refused to sign a written statement declaring that he would have the children of their union raised in the Catholic faith.

The dramatic structure is predominated by monologue. Actual scenes in the action are forever interrupted by the clown's views and they become imaginary dialogues with partners of the past who enter the ring or stand on small stages, platforms or cubby-holes around.

Action is limited to the love story and separation from Marie. Social criticism and anti-clericalism – so sharp and clear in the novel – are neglected. This is a decisive weakness that is not balanced by the new atmospheric compactness and poetic transparency. The figures have a hazy profile. Even Marie as Hans' partner remains a pale extra. Christiane Hammacher had little chance of getting going.

But details tend to fascinate over and over again because they are typical and especially important to Böll's style. There are the short dreamy scenes with sister Henriette who died on the anti-aircraft guns (she is played by Sylvia Ulrich), the Clown's telephone conversations with his stupidly pretentious mother, attractively portrayed by Tatjana Iwanow, the harassing talk with his philistine, filthy-rich father (played by Arthur Mentz, the paragon of indignant surprise) or the debate with the wily, jovial manager of Wolfgang Forester.



A scene from the dramatic arrangement of Böll's novel 'Views of a Clown'
(Photo: Stefan Odry)

Behind the clown's mask Wolfgang Reinbacher added another magnificent performance to the list of his earlier successes. He instinctively passed from one existential level to another. He was a tragicomic harlequin with his pantomime brainwaves, though these were somewhat too detailed at first. He was disciplined in spite of all his vitality in his intelligent performance of a comedian who is only mediocre and never degenerated from anger, despair or melancholy into pure sentimentality, a danger inherent in this role.

It is astounding how Reinbacher, guided by Radok's sensitive, imaginative hand, grasps Hans Schnier's introvert nature and how he is able to change in the unreality of the monologues, even in those silent passages where his reactions are accompanied only by the Clown's voice on tape. Reinbacher deserved applause.

Also to be admired is Josef Svoboda's decor supported by Jan Skalicky's colourful costume. Svoboda transformed the stage into a perfect setting for the Clown. The ring is red, edged in green. Coloured lanterns hang above in long rows. In the background, to right and left, are two niches that can be joined into one. For the imaginary scenes each has a changing interior. Each can be partitioned off with its own curtains or screens for films and projections. From a gallery half a dozen musicians and jugglers help provide the circus atmosphere as do the props hung on ropes from the gridiron.

There was lively applause for Heinrich Böll who was at the premiere, for his helpers and for an experiment that will certainly be disputed – the problems it poses will always be a subject of critical discussion.

Gerd Vielhaber

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 January 1970)

Shakespeare and modern drama

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

This country's Shakespeare Society, headquarters in Bochum, will hold its annual general meeting between 10 and 12 April in Frankfurt.

Three major themes will be discussed in the work groups. One group will busy itself with tackling the question of Shakespeare in translation. This group will be headed by Professor Surbaum of Bochum.

A second group under the direction of Professor Oppel of Marburg University will treat the theme of Shakespeare in pictorial art.

The third work group will be headed by Professor Viebrock of Frankfurt and discuss the topic of Shakespeare's role in history.

The work of the discussion groups will be augmented by two exhibitions. The City and University Libraries are putting various writings and documents on show to illustrate the theme Shakespeare in translation.

"Shakespeare's role in Pictorial Art" will be illustrated by a particularly interesting exhibition.

A performance of "King Lear" will be staged with Albert Hoerrmann in the title role. The producer will be Hans Schalla of Bochum.

Other plays in Shakespeare's repertoire will be staged. But particular attention must be directed to Basle students' productions of scenes from Shakespeare plays, placed in direct opposition to extracts from modern dramas.

Professor Stamm of Basle University will conduct this experiment. Professor Stamm is head of the Shakespeare Society in German speaking countries.

(DIE WELT, 13 January 1970)

The Who's pop opera performed at Hamburg Staatsoper

Beat music in the opera house caused a stir even before the first amplifier appeared on stage.

Houses were packed and all tickets sold well in advance. Everybody wanted to see the results. "The Who", a British pop-group were performing *Tommy* in three cities here.

This is a novelty and curiosity is all the greater, especially as Peter Townsend, the leader of the group, donated the fee from the first performance in Cologne to famine relief. He will personally hand over a cheque for ten thousand Marks to Federal President Gustav Heinemann.

And so two hours before midnight Hamburg State Opera opened its doors wide to the avant-garde.

There was no atmosphere of riot or rowdyism. Though of course the people who come to *Götterdämmerung* are somewhat different. The young audience, whose gods are Mao and Maxi-coats, only wanted music. They remained proper and wellbehaved, leaving the letting off of steam to the four on stage.

And there were no half measures. More than forty man-size amplifiers stood by and on top of one another right across stage as far as the tiny doors in the wings that are so convenient in performances of *Cosi Fan Tutte*.

Compared to the noise made by all the equipment installed the recognition scene between Orestes and Electra is a whispered hello. But at first little was heard from technology. The evening began with a pantomime of Elizabethan fullness of detail.

One of the retinue executed this with accuracy and in full consciousness of his importance. The road managers and band boys of earlier times have long become sound engineers. They demand their own special entry.

With an air of contentment they tested their equipment, whispering or roaring their one-two's into all the microphones, producing a stereo effect from left to right.

With connoisseur written all over their faces they analysed the echo. Half an hour later they unwillingly left the stage.

The Who now came on, separated from the audience by the empty orchestra pit. They are a group who have always shown imagination. Years ago they found their place in the pop-sun with hits like "My Generation", "Substitute" and "Happy Jack".

Peter Townsend, the leader of the group and composer of the work, first confirmed half apologetically what the stage decor – instruments and apparatus in front of a drop-curtain – had already indicated. This was not going to be a proper opera in the old sense of the world. But he could not think of a better description of the work, he said. In Denmark it had been called a cantata, and a fiasco too. He himself was in favour of calling it a song-cycle.

The story of Tommy, the blind, deaf and dumb boy whose only holds on life are pin-machines and the sounds of inner music is told in a series of progressive rock songs.

The stations of his life are brought to life with Cockney realism, psychedelic vision, hard blues, electronic collage and wide-eyed lyricism. And sometimes we hear Irish music and the vulgar energy of the good old music hall tradition.

There is no action. But the theatrical does creep in when the four play carefully distributed parts. Peter Townsend plays the Clever One, singer Roger Daltrey the Wild One, Keith Moon the Clown sits at the drums and John Entwhistle is so unassuming that he is not noticeable.

They are all excellent musicians. Their constant sense of presence, the power and rhythmic imagination of drummer Keith Moon, the feeling for nuances and transition, their joy at music making blessed by inspiration and their dervish-like fitness impress and give rise to rapture.

But it is not enough to keep people entranced for over two hours, especially with the volume. Less in both cases would have been better. During the last twenty minutes one could only wait hoping for the end. One's head swum. Afterwards at the cloakroom people yelled Tommy's touching plea in each other's ears. "Can you hear me?"

Werner Burkhardt

(DIE WELT, 29 January 1970)

■ EDUCATION

Professors express two varying views on university reform



Wilhelm Hennis' *This Country's Unrest. Studies of University policy*, and Helmut Schelsky's *Farewell to University Policy. The University in a State of Breakdown* provide two new contributions to discussions on university reform.

These are the most important works on the subject to appear for a long while. Two university teachers who are daily confronted with the problems express their views, expectations and disappointments.

The two men, one a political scientist from Freiburg, the other a sociologist from Bielefeld, agree for the most part on their diagnosis of the universities' malaise.

Hennis speaks of the false matter-of-fact view of the post-war university as an independent body and the displacement of the state from the university sphere. He explains this by citing the experiences of the Third Reich, when learning was totally subject to politics and universities were coordinated into the system. But this was still plainly an abdication by politicians from their educational responsibilities.

Schelsky's view is similar. He states that one of the causes of the present crisis is the cementing of universities in a remote independent scheme. This is linked with self administration by officials that ranges from inefficient to unworkable.

Both writers consider the community of teachers and students, the unity of teaching and research and demands for democratisation (this occurs when the university is thought of as a sovereign body) as a naive adherence to categories taken over uncritically from Humboldt and an ideologically coloured defence of traditional positions of power.

Schelsky blames the authorities, politicians and public as well as the universities themselves for neglecting reforms. Hennis' criticisms are concentrated on this country's Rectors' Conference and the Council of Arts and Sciences. In the fifties these groups recommended extending existing universities instead of building new ones. This has led to the present distressing situation.

In spite of obvious agreement on some points it is clear that Hennis and Schelsky take up basically different positions when it is a question of what to do now after years of frustrating and unproductive discussion on reform.

In analysing the causes of the crisis Hennis does not go as far as Schelsky. He still believes that faith in the capabilities of the traditional organisational structure of the university, especially the structure of the Classical faculties, can show a way out of the crisis. There is no doubt that universities in this country need reform and as they are basically healthy they can be reformed. But reform of this country's universities is not a problem of their constitutions but a problem of their administration or, more accurately, the administration of the faculties. Hennis' special love seems to be the faculties. He judges newly founded universities on whether they adhere to the traditional organisational form – witnessed in the Bremen proposals for faculty reorganisation – or whether they introduce new organisations dependant on separate departments, as has occurred in Bochum, Constance or Bielefeld.

When sociologist Schelsky gives a negative answer to the question of whether this country's universities are capable of reforming themselves within the framework of their own administration Hennis, representing the possibility of a thorough-going reform policy through the faculties, accuses him of disgraceful resignation.

Schelsky's analysis of developments at post-war universities and in post-war society is more exact and based on history and sociology. His conclusions are more far-reaching and seem to be more realistic in the long run.

In the next few years he forecasts an increasing breakdown of universities as places of teaching and research. This will be supported by the tendency of the forthcoming university laws to replace the badly functioning or non-functioning traditional collegial organs by organs of self-administration divided into equal interest groups. The removal of research from an unproductive university system will be unavoidable. In the next few years universities will be able to fulfill their function as an institute of academic professional training.

Schelsky sees possibilities of reform in the establishment of state administration of universities orientated around the basic rights and therefore ensuring the freedom to lecture and do research into whatever subjects are desired. Only then would universities still have a chance in the long run of once again becoming places of research. That would mean that the university itself would make a demarcation line between learning and research.

However tempting Hennis' thought of an organisational reform of this country's universities out of the classical faculties may sound it must be borne in mind that it may have been able to combat the frictions and functional difficulties of universities in the fifties but it will not be able to solve the fundamental problems of a university in the seventies.

Schelsky says, "The chances of mere reform being a solution for the revival of the traditional university have long past. What is needed is a planned reconstruction of this country's educational and university system."

(Handelsblatt, 28 January 1970)





There's room for one small one!

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Hannoversche Pre

Leussink announces measures against Numerus Clausus

Federal Education Minister Hans Le sink has stated that the Fede government will give universi sufficient money to take inmedi action against Numerus Clausus, or restr tion on entry.

In a Bundestag debate on the situa in the overcrowded universities Leuss said that probably none of the annou rapid construction projects would ne to be stopped for financial reasons. B the Federal government and the Fede states were determined, he added, to lo no time in exploiting all opportunities better cooperation.

The debate centred around a gover ment reply to a Christian Democrat Christian Socialist question on Numer Clausus, the fixing of maximum numbe of students admitted to universities.

In this report Leussink expressed fear that the situation at the univers would sooner become worse then bette

In the debate all three parties we unanimous that great efforts must made to abolish entry restrictions. T question of how to finance a program of this type revealed differing views.

Leussink announced the conditions immediate measures developed at the fi session of the new joint committee government and Federal states university construction:

1: Immediate decisions on constru must end bottlenecks in overcrowding.

2: Bottlenecks must be complet cleared by construction measures this type

3: The only additional projects to financed should be those that are o and above original plans.

4: Measures taken for rapid constru tion must be finished in one year.

Leussink stressed that the new Fede government, in spite of all good inte tions, could not solve in the short te problems resulting from the univers policies of the last twenty years.

But, he added, the work of the jo committee was a promising beginni The committee would meet again on March. Until then, he said, a worki group would be developing the first sta of a framework plan that would cove university construction in the next fe years.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 22 January 1970)

■ SCIENCE

Computers and television will replace scientific books

In years to come researchers will have three items of equipment in their studies.

A teleprinter will allow the researcher to order books and periodicals needed to continue his work.

A television screen will show him the literature.

And a pneumatic post will bring copies of the most important sections to him.

The researcher needs only to walk into his study with a thought that came to him overnight and he can assemble in the course of the morning a library consisting of hundreds of relative documents. After lunch he can then begin evaluating them.

This is the future envisaged by Professor Helmut Arntz of Bad Honnef, an expert in the sphere of documentation, in a study on the future of scientific books and periodicals.

He believes that scientific books and periodicals have no future. People still think of scholars poring over the written word and believe that reading is their raison d'etre. But this type no longer exists. Scientific books have lost their value. And Arntz believes that the immense expense of libraries and archives is not justified by the negligible use made of them.

He quotes the recommendation of a high government official in the United States who suggests that there should be no literary research in projects of less than 100,000 dollars. Researchers should then act as if they were exploring new territory.

He also quoted a physicist who said with a sigh that it was easier for him to repeat a discovery in the laboratory than to track it down through all the literature.

At Euratom books and specialist monographs represent only one per cent of the literature used. The other 99 per cent is articles in periodicals, research reports, conference papers, individually mimeographed manuscripts or photocopied essays.

Arntz's sharp criticisms are not directed against scientific books as used all over the world by students of all disciplines nor against their unlimited use in developing countries. Nothing can replace dictionaries, grammars and collections of formulae.

But he does question their function among the elite, those who are in the vanguard of research in all branches. Even the youngest chemist on the track of a new product in an industrial laboratory belongs in this sense to the elite.

What he needs to know immediately and accurately of the work of all those in his specialist sphere is provided in the traditional way by the scientific periodical (when Arntz speaks of books he means primarily collected volumes of periodicals).

That is to say, it should be. But in practice they appear so slowly that by the time they are published their results are long since out of date. And this material of short-term relevance has to be printed on fine art paper, curiously enough. Machine-made paper and offset would be completely sufficient.

In the last twenty years the number of periodicals has increased at such a rate (there are now four or five times as many) that nobody can read even a fraction of them.

The importance of a periodical declines for every subscriber at the same rate that it increases its scope. To counter this the periodical must split up into sections. This increases the number of periodicals as new ones are formed.

"Are the periodicals sounding their own death knell with so much paper?" asks the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. Of all that is of direct importance to a researcher it is estimated that he sees one per cent in the original and a further four per cent in the form of short reviews or reports. 95 per cent of important facts pass by unnoticed.

Chemistry is affected most by this growing weight of paper. But things are not much different in medicine, atomic energy and air and space travel. 22,000 publications appear every year on the subject of cancer alone.

Professor Arntz asks, "Should the field now be split up into lung cancer, intestinal cancer and cancer of the breast and should the specialist specialise still further – just because he is unable to keep up with all the literature?"

If it was at least known that the immense production of sixty million pages a year would satisfy the wishes of readers there would be some consolation.

But Arntz says that the contrary is true. "This," he says, "is a further support for my theory that the tool is about to become useless. The time of printed specialist literature is passing. Persisting with it is an anachronism."

Computers and electronic programming installations are now more in the position to store facts from specialist literature. At first only privileged researchers will have teleprinters, televisions and pneumatic post in their studies.

Those with access to this equipment will not only be able to obtain information from the stored memory at any time but will also be able to play about with plans to see whether the results of a certain chain of thought will be of any help in further work.

Other researchers will go to the computer and will have to state their wishes as accurately as possible. The computer will immediately supply lists of relevant literature. The researcher then selects the works he wants and is then shown texts stored in the computer or stocked in the library. When he finds a suitable document and wants a copy he presses one button. If he finds it so interesting that he wants the original then he can press another button.

Technical problems have been solved – only the question of organisation remains. In his work *The Scientific Book* published by the Verlag für Buchmarktforschung in Hamburg, Arntz pursues his vision of the future.

"Our researcher will leave with material that he personally has selected and examined. While he builds up his hand apparatus at home hundreds of others can use the same system whose terminals are all connected with the central computer station and, through this, with all other information centres of the same discipline. This information network covers countries and continents. A dream? No, all the separate parts are in existence or in development and the large-scale network will be formed more quickly that some pseudo-conservative bodies might like." *Gerhard Weise*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 27 January 1970)

New catalogue to aid research

The Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz, a library situated in both Berlin and Marburg, has underlined its central importance for scientific literature by compiling a complete catalogue of foreign scientific periodicals that are to be found in libraries in the Federal Republic.

This reference work will be of invaluable use for research undertaken in this country.

Dr Otto Loehmann, director of the acquisitions department, added that the library had been further commissioned by this country's research community to produce a catalogue of scientific periodicals and journals appearing in the Federal Republic.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 25 January 1970)

Joint Federal Republic – American solar probe

ONLY 28 MILLION MILES AWAY FROM THE SUN

Helios I and II, the Federal Republic's two solar probes, will go nearer the sun than any other previous space vehicle.

This country's industries have just submitted tenders for the project. In 1974 and 1975 the vehicle will fly its eccentric course around the sun and, during the flight, explore interplanetary space.

The venture is being financed jointly by the Federal Republic and the United States. When the contract was signed last June it was announced that total costs would be 353 million Marks. This country would contribute 233 million Marks spread over five years.

At the official opening of this country's satellite control centre in Oberpfaffenhofen project scientist Herbert Porsche of the Federal Republic's Research and Experimental Station for Air and Space Travel gave details of the probe and its functions.

The probes will fly parallel about 12.5 million miles apart. The nearest they will get to the Sun is about 28 million miles. And the most distant part of their course will be just 93 million miles from the sun.

The Helios probes – each of the satellites weighs about 460 pounds – will be borne on to their orbit around the sun by two modified Atlas Centaur rockets.

Ten different experiments are planned. Four will be carried out by American scientists and one each by Italy and Australia. The remainder will be the domain of institutes in this country. The data will be collected by NASA's worldwide ground system and the station at Effelsberg run by the Max Planck Institute of Radio-astronomy. The results will then be passed on to the central station of this country's ground station system at Lichtenau near Weilheim.

A series of unsolved problems face engineers and scientists engaged in the development of the probes. Heating through solar radiation sets certain limits on the height that the vehicles can travel above the sun's surface. The closer that Helios comes to the sun, the greater is the danger that the heat will cause the instruments to fail. The orbit now chosen is a compromise between scientific demands and technical possibilities.

Transmitting data is also causing engineers concern. The Sun exceeds the Helios probes in the range of transmitting frequencies by many orders of magnitude. Radio contact is possible only when the probe and the sun are far apart and receivers do not pick up both at once.

But this will not be the case at the scientifically most interesting stages of the venture when the probe will be far away from Earth. During this period data will have to be stored on tape and later transmitted to ground stations. As distances involved are anything up to 186 million miles this is a difficult proposition.

The probes will analyse charged particles, measure magnetic fields in space and observe zodiacal light; sunlight scattered over free electrons and cosmic dust.

An important part of the programme will be the examination of inter-planetary dust. The size, speed and charge of larger particles will be measured with a mass spectrometer.

In a spectrometer of this type electric fields divert the particles from their original course. The lighter the particles are the more they are diverted. After being pre-sorted in his way the particles go through a magnetic field, where particles of the same size and charge are concentrated in one position. Smaller particles on the other hand are not spectroscoped but only counted.

When making a total evaluation of the experiments scientists will study more exactly than ever before effects forecast by Albert Einstein in his general theory of relativity.

The interpretation of the data gained will be made more easy by similar measurements from earth and from other space vehicles. Scientists suggested equipping a satellite to orbit Earth with the same instruments and launch this at the same time as the Helios probes. But reasons of cost will probably prevent this. Scientists will therefore have to use measurements that other earth satellites have chanced to make.

While supplementary investigations close to the Earth depend on chance there will probably be a parallel observation in inter-planetry space.

A year before the launching of Helios I NASA, the United States space authority, will send probes Pioneer F and G towards Jupiter. These will be away for more than a year. Experiments on board will be similar to those of the Helios probes.

As the American probes will be operating some 450 million miles from ours scientists hope to gain some information on spatial events in inter-planetary space by comparing data from Helios and Pioneer.

(DIE WELT, 24 January 1970)

■ COMMON MARKET

The EEC currency union

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

Prospects of forming a European currency union have never looked brighter than they do today.

Devaluation of sterling and the franc and revaluation of the Mark have eradicated the worst disturbances to the equilibrium of costs and prices in Britain, France and the Federal Republic.

So the way is clearer for the countries already in the European Economic Community and one of the applicants for membership.

Furthermore countries in the EEC are progressing towards greater economic similarity. This makes the present moment ripe for beginning to pursue a communal economic policy.

Finally the Six have reaffirmed their keenness to work in cooperation in economic and currency matters. They stated this at the summit conference in The Hague. Therefore, officially and unofficially, optimism is increasing.

If rationality alone determined political and economic developments it would be possible to join in with this optimism without much difficulty.

However, as life and the coexistence of men are governed by other forces which are fortunately sometimes stronger than pure reason and rationality, this justified optimism should be tempered somewhat by pointing out the dangers that threaten this development.

A communal agrarian policy should be the factor that holds the Community willingly together, whenever political driving forces are lamed.

But the attempt to push agrarian policy alone into the virgin territory of economic integration ended in failure.

Just like a military patrol that leaves the main striking force and goes it alone behind enemy lines and has to surrender as soon as it gets into difficulties, the communal agrarian policy with its mooted communal prices fell flat on its face when it came up against alterations to parity.

For this reason the powers-that-be in EEC member countries and in Brussels sat down and tried to work out plans that would right the economy and currency deficiencies of the past.

In this line there are the Monnet Plan, vintage 1961, the Münchmeyer Plan dating from September 1968, the Barre Report from February 1969, the Carli and Triffin Plans of July 1969 and the three-stage plan put forward for discussion by the Belgian government at the summit conference.

All these theses differ in details, but they all call for a European Central Bank, which would aid communal economic policies on the Continent by means of a European currency union with one money.

This grand and glorious goal is not one that can be reached in one fell swoop. The Common Market consists of six sovereign nations that must leap away from their own shadow.

Firstly, exchange rates between the member countries must be pegged. There must be no further alterations to them within the Market territory either by easy stages or by the extreme measures of devaluation and revaluation. This is the stage at which the question of assistance credit by a European reserve fund should be taken care of.

The second stage must be to establish a European Central Bank, which would handle its affairs in such a way that it forced the governments of Europe to carry out unified economic policies.

The third stage would be to issue European money, notes and coins.

It is the second of these stages that would mean the greatest change to the European scene.

It would relegate the issuing banks in each of the six countries to the present position of Federal Republic state central banks (Landeszentralbanken). That is to say the Bundesbank would no longer be able to make definite decisions on finance policy as at present.

The Bundesbank and its parallels in other European Economic Community countries would be subsidiary institutions of the European Central Bank, which alone would have the power to make decisions. In the course of this the rights of national sovereignity would be lost.

At present and for the foreseeable future hope is slight that European governments will abdicate their sovereign rights, which allow them to pave the way to elections with decisions on economic policy. Surely politicians would try to postpone the inception of this second phase for as long as possible.

Putting the house in order

If, however, a reserve fund had been started as in phase one which would finance balance of payments deficits it could come to pass that many countries would start enjoying the situation. The wholesome urge for correcting domestic inflationary processes, which up till now has involved cutting down national currency reserves, would diminish.

Such are the dangers of an isolated treatment of questions of economic policy in the EEC that Hamburg's International Economics Archives recently warned against them. We should cultivate a healthy distrust towards the politician's weakness for taking the line of least resistance.

Cooperation on currency questions must be based on a harmonisation of economic policy. This is the way to get the priorities right. Let us be on our guard that politicians do not succumb to the temptation of undertaking the second stage (mentioned above) before the first.

Rudolf Herlt

(DIE WELT, 26 January 1970)

Government economic report predicts a cooler front

This year is not expected to bring a slump in the economy all of a sudden, but it is thought that there will be a general levelling off of economic growth rates.

This is predicted in the Bonn government's annual economic report, which was passed by the Cabinet weeks ago, but has only just been published.

It is stated that the year 1969 ended with a strongly marked upward trend in prices and the news that industrial capacity is being stretched to its limits.

Revaluation of the Mark has led to a certain amount of stabilisation in the cost of living, to a slackening off of demand from other countries and a steady increase of foreign goods imported into the Federal Republic.

The overall effects of revaluation are not ready for scrutiny yet. But it may be supposed that in the coming months any effects this measure had will dry up.

The trend of rising prices in other countries continues. In 1970 this country will experience far less serious price increases than many other nations.

The government report continues that world economic expansion and alongside this the demand for capital investment goods from abroad should decline, and it is expected that in the Federal Republic, too, there will be a tendency for investments to drop.

In the first six months of this year economic development will be held in check to a great extent by the limits of production capacity.

However, later on this year, a general levelling off of the outstanding orders on industrialists' books is expected.

In figures this reads: a nominal increase of the gross national product from 10.5 to 11.5 per cent is expected in the first six months of 1970. From July to December the increase should be from about 7.5 to 8.5 per cent.

The estimated increase in the gross national product over the whole year is therefore, of course, from nine to ten per cent.

The actual increase in this country's productivity in the year, that is to say, the above figures minus price rises, is estimated as being from four to five per cent. These figures are arrived at by taking the average of the increase for the first six months of 1970 (five to six per cent) and in the second half of this year, which should be from three to four per cent.

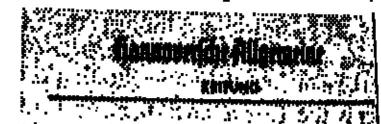
From these figures it can be seen immediately that the difference between the nominal and actual national prod[uct], that is to say price increases estimated [by] the national product, is between 4.5 [and] 5.5 per cent.

This difference is, however, unsuit[able] for use as a yardstick for the incre[ase in] prices on the home provisions market [and] in the service industries.

Price levels for goods on deman[d at] home, so the report says, will actually [rise] by about four per cent. For private [...] the rise will be three per cent, it [is] estimated.

If the developments in prices for co[n]sumer goods are not too healthy this m[ust] be ascribed to the situation at the end [of] 1969. The government is striving for [a] good degree of price stability ov[er a] certain period of time.

The report says that the governme[nt is] hoping revaluation will have led [to a] heavy decrease in exports. Neverthe[less]



an increase of five to six per cent in the produce and service sections of the economy must be reckoned with.

The growth in imports, however, [is] estimated at between 9.5 and 10.5 per cent. This means that the balance of tra[de] surplus should be cut by 4,000 to 5,0[00] million Marks to about 11,000 milli[on] Marks.

Inclusive of the effects of continu[ed] pay for sick workers gross income [of] non-selfemployed people should incre[ase] by no less than 12.5 to 13.5 per cent [...] net increase will be about 10.5 to 1[...] per cent.

The increase to effective earnings w[ill] be in the region of ten per cent, and [an] increase in the number of employed [of] one per cent is expected.

It is expected that the individual wor[k]ing day will shorten by 0.5 per cent on last year, so the increase in salaries p[er] hour will be ten or eleven per cent.

The report is unable to state clea[rly] what increase rate in tariff agreemen[ts] will be at the back of this increase i[n] effective salaries, for each individu[al] branch of industry, since there is a wi[de] divergence in the gap between effect[ive] pay and tariff agreements in each bran[ch] and region.

The government in its report thin[ks] that the gross income from industrialis[ts] will only increase by four to five per cent, but considers this sufficient.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 January 1970)

Continued balance of trade surplus in 1969

An export surplus of 15,600 million Marks achieved in one year of high economic activity is quite impressive.

The figure is all the more startling when various factors are taken into consideration. For instance during the whole of the year in question exports carried taxation and imports were subsidised.

Furthermore, in October the Mark became nine per cent dearer for our trade partners.

Therefore the achievements of this country's exporters are beyond all praise.

For economic reasons, however, it must be stressed that such a balance of trade surplus over a long period is undesirable, since it cuts down the supply on the home market. The flow of money between trading countries leads to a constant importation of inflation.

Last year the effects of imported inflation could only be neutralised by getting rid of the money flowing in post haste in the form of foreign loans, and then this only had a limited effect.

Nevertheless a country in our position needs a certain export surplus. This means that we can meet our political financial commitments, for example paying for the armed forces stationed here.

Also we can then cover the costs of international service industries and foreign travel.

There are already several warning voices saying that the growth in imports is substantially greater than in exports. The association dealing with foreign trade has given a decidedly grim estimate of the future.

They say that with the high percentage of revaluation, rising prices on the domestic market and the extremely high interest rates on loans this country's exports are dangerously overburdened.

On the other hand it should not be forgotten that our most important partners in trade are having to fight against rising costs, that they are also suffering from high interest rates and rising salaries and that on the whole highly priced goods such as those exported from the four most important branches of Federal Republic industry, heavy machinery, vehicles, electronics and chemicals are not affected overmuch by the way prices are moving.

It is precisely in these spheres of growth that our competitiveness on world markets has been rather strengthened than weakened in the past year.

(Münchner Merkur, 27 January 1970)

■ BUSINESS

Hanover's *Constructa 1970* – the homes of the future



Constructa 1970 is the title of a fair in Hanover. Its purpose is to give information about building and the supply of materials required for modern building schemes. The exhibition programme is broad and nearly 7,000 square yards of floor space are available for it.

The exhibition draws attention to major economic factors and sets its sights on the not too distant future. Stylistically, however, there are some retrograde steps to areas of homely kitsch which appear quite anachronistic.

Constructa covers eight exhibition halls and has about 1,000 exhibitors. For the first time its overall picture seems fabulously modern. It is ultracontemporary, offering not only traditional materials but new kinds and combinations of materials.

Quite apart from improvements to details there are developments which were called for a few years since or were at that time only in their infancy. Various groups of experts or individual groups of firms from several expert organisations have put their heads together to give extensive information about technical and financial requirements of modern living.

With series of well annotated photos they show the relationship to town and country planning, to new styles of living and to the much talked about infrastructure, that is to say the surroundings of a house or estate with the possibilities it offers to a leisured society.

A working committee based in Düsseldorf tackles the problem of renovating old buildings giving a detailed guide to the financing involved and also questions concerning technical difficulties.

Many manufacturers have turned their attention to developing products which are especially for "doing up" old buildings.

The specialised industries have turned their attention to methods of heating and sound-proofing rooms using materials largely of plastic of various kinds.

The key words rationalisation and industrialisation lose part of their character for the impartial visitor in the face of prefabricated and do-it-yourself items on offer.

For furnishing the house there are on offer ready-made items such as doors, windows, sliding dividing-walls and kitchen furniture not to mention ready-made roofs, ready-made facades, ready-made complete houses, ready-made swimming pools and ready-made gymnasiums. Often the prices are in contrast to the much quoted consumer mobility which has been striven for, the consumers at whom this exibition is aimed being private builders.

So much for the outlines of the largest European building exhibition. The individual spheres of the building industry on exhibition here depend largely on the interest, the judgment and the endurance of the visitor.

Constructa is an exhibition for experts, for everybody who builds, for architects, engineers, contractors and tradesmen, and also for property owners and even the tenants of modest rented dwellings who are filled with ideas of improving the place where they live.

The exhibition also has an interest for the modern housewife who in her domestic capacity feels herself to be important to advertisers.

It should be emphasised that this exhibition is for experts. The layman filled with building ideas only realises this when he has been round all the exhibition halls and is carrying his prospectuses home with him, his head filled with unbuilt houses.

Naturally he is not in need of a magnificent façade. He has before his eyes the aesthetic appeal of elegant steel and aluminium coverings, glass and plastic walls and the like. These are nothing new, but they are particularly good.

The layman after a tour of the exhibition presumably also has big ideas about tiles in his head. There are so many tiles at this *Constructa*. Long rows of stalls are devoted to coverings for inner walls in every imagineable material including marble, plastic and exotic parquet.

It seems that we are heading for a time of unheard of individualism in bathrooms, kitchens and hallways. This is without taking into consideration the possibilities of the many textiles on show.

The range of textiles even stretches so far as coverings for tennis courts and other sports grounds, which are robust, easily cared for and in a decent green which gives an illusion of being turf. However lay the layman may be he cannot be excluded from the mysteries of windows and doors. He walks between long glazed, metal-framed housefronts. For him they all seem to be much of a muchness until he by chance overhears the conversation of two experts on the subject speaking specialist language.

Techniques of designing kitchens are far more of a closed shop. Kitchen furniture tends to be in shining chrome with white plastic and other colours and the big tendency is towards making the kitchen more functional for the housewife. Free movement and the ability to reach for things easily are important and with the great wave of automation in the kitchen practical places to store kitchen equipment when not in use are essential.

Unlike at the Cologne furniture fair the most futuristic example is not the spherical kitchen with the astronaut look controlled from a seat in the middle. Here the opposite attitude seems to have been taken. The kitchen equipment on two levels is attached to a central pillar around which the apparatus can be turned either by hand or by an electric motor – in the latter case the cost must be taken into consideration.



A stand at Hanover's Constructa 1970
(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

To complete the super kitchen perfectly there is a likewise newly developed "provisions paternoster". This is expected to be rather expensive.

Fashions for bathrooms are also on exhibition at Hanover's *Constructa*. What is presented here in diverse colours is a "wohnbad", that is to say a bath in which one can feel at home, it is not exactly a prototype, but comes as a result of the wishes of people who want bathing to be more of a joy, and the idea has already gone into mass-production.

The materials being used in bathrooms are proof against knocks and scratches, are heat isolating and were designed by the Institute for Industrial Design at the Hanover Technical University.

Their material is plexiglass and their designs invite you to stay, they are so attractive.

Niches are arranged in the bathroom for television sets and these can be used just as easily for bottles, books and vases.

Hygienic conditions are self-evident in the bathroom of the future and the normal sanitary and health equipment is supplemented with sunray lamps, sporting equipment and sauna baths.

It is recommended that there should be a miniature swimming bath as well. It goes without saying that this would be lined with the ubiquitous tiles, to the purchaser's own taste

Judging by supply we are heading for the sauna age! All kinds of sauna baths are on show and they can be installed in various parts of the house, garden or cellar.

For the sake of health large private swimming pools are ideal. They are on show in one of the exhibition halls and have thus lost all their air of extravagance.

Home gymnasiums will be part of the home of the future. In future no one will be able to complain that gym equipment is out of the question because of lack of space. Horizontal bars and punch bags do not take up that much room.

A leisure-house accommodating up to seven people is on show to while away free hours. It is hexagonal and white like a star. It has an air of science fiction about it. The house, designed by Frenchmen, is extraordinarily roomy.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 January 1970)

Grüne Woche brings a breath of rural air to Berlin

Berlin's Grüne Woche (International Agricultural Exhibition) opened by Minister of Agriculture Josef Ertl is this year more varied and with regard to foreign participation it is more international than last year.

The Forestry Commission used this opportunity of the European Nature Preservation Year to emphasise the importance of woods and natural landscapes and in the exhibition halls at the Berlin Television Tower it is doing its bit for the green emphasis.

The exhibition of breeding and fattening animals, ranging from broody hens to beef cattle brings the people of Berlin who visit the exhibition halls a breath of rural air on their little island starved of it. Foreign participation again provides the high points of the exhibition. Twenty-eight countries have set up attractive stands at the Television Tower to exhibit their specialities for kitchen and pantry.

For them the 2.2 million consumers in Berlin provide a good test market. This country's agriculture is also exhibiting its produce. The three Federal states, Hesse Rhineland-Palatinate and the Saar have clubbed together to show their specialities in the south-western section of the country. Agricultural machinery is also being exhibited. The Grüne Woche which has a traditional duration of ten days has as its centre-piece and main attraction for the general public the exhibiton, but it also involves important meetings of members of the agriculture and food industries. There will be talks between government ministers and delegates from several countries abroad during this ten-day week!

Thirty-five countries are exhibiting 150 films in the international film competition. Ten of these have a nature preservation theme.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 28 January 1970)

One of the halls of Berlin's Grüne Woche
(Photo: Berliner Ausstellungen)

TECHNOLOGY

BASF to build the world's first industrial nuclear power station



Badische Anilin- und Sodafabrik (BASF) are to build the world's first industrial nuclear power station at Ludwigshafen. It will cost between 600 and 700 million Marks.

It is designed not only to generate electric power. Its principal product will be steam for use as a heat carrier in chemical processes such as distillation and as a raw material for chemical reactions such as the manufacture of synthetic gas. In both cases it will serve a much-needed purpose.

As process steam can only be conveyed over relatively short distances the power station must be centrally located. The site that has been chosen is the old carbide factory, which is no longer needed following the conversion of production to petrochemical raw materials.

The nuclear power station will be equipped with two pressurised-water reactors with a thermic capacity of 2,000 megawatts each. The light-water coolant enters the reactor at approximately 292 degrees centigrade and passes round the core from below, reaching roughly 320 degrees in the process.

The water passes on its heat to the secondary circuit in the four steam generators. Each generates 1,000 tons of process steam and 481,000 kw/h of electric current an hour. The electric power is generated by means of transformers attached to each turbo generator.

The process steam is expanded in a counter-pressure turbo aggregate, mechanically dehydrated, superheated to 265 degrees and then fed into the works 18 A process steam grid.

The reactor pressure container is welded together out of several prefabricated sections. It is roughly ten metres tall and weighs about 310 tons. It is housed in a biological shield, a cement trench with walls two metres thick.

The entire reactor cooling system is housed in a cylindrical cement casing 36 metres in diameter. The cement cylinder is clad in a steel shield 48 metres in diameter and roughly a metre from it there is a further concrete construction.

BASF decided on building a twin-reactor plant in order to obviate the need to shut down most of the production facilities when a reactor is not in use — during fuel replacement, for instance.

The three conventional power stations at present in use will continue to be kept in reserve but their capacity is unlikely to be sufficient to meet the works requirements in 1975 when the nuclear power station is due to be taken into service. By then BASF will need 3,000-odd tons of steam an hour as opposed to the present 2,000 tons.

The latest in low-pressure furnaces, swiftly taken into operation, will cater for peak production requirements in winter.

Safety is the most important factor in nuclear power station construction. The people who work in the power station or live nearby must be protected from harmful effects both during both during normal operation and in the event of defects.

The Cologne Institute of Reactor Safety was commissioned to examine the project in March 1968. The old carbide factory, Friesenheim island and a site to the north of the works were to be compared for suitability.

In addition an AEG-Telefunken boiling-water reactor, a Siemens pressurised-water reactor and the Brown, Boveri AGR gas-cooled reactor were to be examined from the safety standpoint. The possibility of the power station being damaged as a result of an accident elsewhere in the chemicals plant had to be taken into account.

On the basis of comprehensive investigation the institute concludes in its survey that the progress made by science and technology today has made it possible so to design and construct nuclear power stations that they no longer represent an unacceptable risk for the general public.

Safety nonetheless depends to a large extent on the design and construction chosen. All construction elements relevant to nuclear power station safety are accordingly being subjected to detailed checks by both the authorities and independent bodies.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 January 1970)

Bundesbahn goes gas turbine

Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, which plans to develop an 800-mile network along which trains can travel at speeds of up to 125 miles an hour over the next few years, has announced that gas turbine locomotives are shortly to undergo trials.

Before being tested under normal conditions on inter-city routes these locomotives, which develop up to 10,000 horse power, are to undergo a comprehensive programme of trial runs.

Before the year is out eight diesel locomotives with additonal gas turbine units developing 1,100 horse power are to be delivered to the Bundesbahn for initial trials.

So far the Bundesbahn's high-speed trials have concentrated on electric locomotives. Costing has, however, revealed that turbine locomotives are an attractive proposition when they are able to use their power to the full.

As fuel consumption is high when gas turbines are not running at full throttle the Bundesbahn is thinking in terms of equipping locomotives with four turbines, various combinations of the four providing initial thrust.

For the time being, though, Trans Europa and inter-city expresses with their fast diesel locomotives are to be fitted with a single, 2,500-horse-power gas turbine.

During the trial period a twin-railcar train with one gas turbine each will probably be used. The three carriages in between the two — a passenger carriage, a dining car and a buffet — are to be fitted with curve-proof spring suspension.

Bundesbahn engineers hope that this design will make it possible to take curves that for comfort reasons would otherwise allow of a maximum 105 miles an hour at a steady 125.

At Bundesbahn headquartes in Frankfurt hopes are expressed that gas turbine locomotives and tracklaying programmes will make it possible perceptibly to cut the time taken to cover inter-city routes. The Bundesbahn's immediate ambition is to link Munich and Hamburg in six hours.

As most of the existing permanent way dates back a century no illusions are harboured about the limitations of the present network. This was one of the reasons for the high-speed rail project study.

The project involves a high-speed vehicle that is to convey goods and passengers along completely new track at an average 250 miles an hour. Following the main north-south flow of traffic the high-speed rail service is to link Hamburg, Hanover, Cologne, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Munich.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 January 1970)

Ultrasonic waves to locate invisible faults

Material faults, in the axle of a railway carriage, for instance, can have disastrous results, as any rail traveller speeding along the tracks at eighty-five miles an hour can imagine.

Few travellers, though, will stop and wonder how minute faults in the metal are located without sawing the axle down to iron filings.

X-raying welds is a well-known process. A more up-to-date one that has proved its worth is ultrasonic testing.

For a minute fraction of a second sound impulses of a two-to four-megahertz frequency, equivalent to four million oscillations a second, are beamed at the item for testing.

They spread out at the speed of sound, roughly four miles a second, and are reflected either from the opposite surface or by a defect. Basically the time that elapses between transmission of the recurring impulse and the return of its echo is measured.

The examiner reads off the faults on a screen from which he can tell their nature, location and size. Using this method defects only a few tenths of a millimetre in size can be easily recognised as such.

With the aid of ultrasonic inspection sections of axle shafts that are not accessible to the naked eye can be checked. Locomotive wheels now automatically pass through the ultrasonic test bed at railway repair depots.

Using a specially-developed variant the axle shafts of ready-assembled locomotives can be inspected without difficulty or undue expense.

Track can also be checked, using either portable equipment on rollers or inspection carriages that record readings on a continuous strip while moving at twenty miles an hour.

An experienced operator can not only read off defects as they show up on the strip; he can also describe their nature, location and size. With the aid of kilometre posts along the track the exact location can then be found to within ten centimetres.

(RHEIN-NECKAR-ZEITUNG, 24 January 1970)

Cooling Tower

This giant, 390-foot tall cooling tower has been built at Castrop Rauxel. It is the world's highest. The tower is part of the Gustav Knepper nuclear power station. (Photo:)

Merchant Navy tonnage up

In 1969 a further considerable increase in and rejuvenation of Federal Republic merchant shipping tonnage occurred, according to figures published by the Association of Federal Republic Shipowners.

Last year 102 ships with a total tonnage of 642,544 GRT were taken into service and 95, mostly older vessels with a total of 347,075 gross registered tons retired.

Eighty-two of the newcomers, 523,9.. gross registered tons' worth of the total, were bought second-hand from abroad. Three were rebuilt coastal vessels.

Eleven of the 82 newly-built ships were built in foreign countries, three in the German Democratic Republic.

The average age of Federal Republic merchant shipping is six months less than a year ago. On 1 January it was nine and a half years.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 January 1970)

AUTOMOBILES

A preview of likely new cars in 1970

INDUSTRY HAS HAD RECORD PRODUCTION YEAR

Rather miraculously the motor industry, which last year set up a production record of 3.5 million vehicles, much to the envy of other countries, is hard pressed to keep up with orders again — despite the cold winter.

The assembly lines are humming and for a number of models at least customers are having to wait some time before delivery.

Patience seems to be the keyword for the industry this year. Pundits who are speculating on a flood of new models are likely to need the most patience. They have definitely backed the wrong horse.

There will, of course, be innovations. The tough battle for custom is forcing the industry to be increasingly vigilant. But such plans as there are have long been made.

Yet according to various forecasts published in a number of otherwise well-informed journals we will not be able to see the wood for trees; so many new models are due to make their appearance.

A clear distinction must be made between fact and fiction. Viewed in the cold light of day many a forecast that has rashly been proclaimed to be bona fide turns out to be pure wishful thinking.

As far as the motor industry in this country is concerned the following innovations can be expected to occur in 1970.

To begin with Volkswagen, the giant of Wolfsburg, the Beetle will continue to live a charmed life. In accordance with hallowed tradition a few improvements will be made after the works holidays.

It remains to be seen whether or not they will include a double-jointed rear axle and the 411's front-wheel suspension.

The genuine newcomer will be the K 70. In view of the good relations between Wolfsburg and Neckarsulm there is little reason why it should not be unveiled this autumn. Few changes have been made to the original NSU design, incidentally.

The 1.6-litre, ninety-horse-power K 70 will be the first front-wheel drive, water-cooled engine model to boast the VW emblem on its bonnet. Talk of another new model, a pseudo-sports car with youth appeal, for instance, is premature.

Instead, another Volkswagen subsidiary, Auto Union, is to make good its undertaking to extend the Audi range to include coupes. The first coupe models will probably be on the market by late summer.

Opel's intention of unveiling a Commodore GS with electronic fuel injection at the Geneva motor show is already public knowledge. Rumours that the days of the Kadett and Rekord are numbered are emphatically denied at Rüsselheim, though.

Even so. Opel strategists are well aware of the lie of the land and it can hardly be long before the signal is sounded for an attack on the Capri. Ford's bestseller must be causing them some sleepless nights. By late autumn Opel could be ready to take up the chase.

Model changes at Ford's of Cologne have followed a regular pattern for some years. This summer the market is due for a new Taunus 12 and 15 M, which should create a stir in the lower medium-class category.

The design should be a winner: modern styling with the characteristic Capri rear end, a wide range of engines from 1.2 to 1.8 litres and, so many Ford fans are quietly hoping, a change-over from front-wheel drive to comfortable rear-axle transmission.

Another Ford innovation is due to make its appearance in this country in April. It is a special version of the Escort with a 120-horse-power racing engine cut down to size for everyday use. It hails not from Cologne but from Dagenham, England.

Much that has been said and written about Daimler-Benz has proved misleading. Whatever happens the successful 200, 220, 230 and 250 models will continue as before. Small wonder when it is borne in mind that they are going like hot cakes and hardly available in less than twelve months.

There is as little intention of manufacturing a Mercedes 250 with a 2.8-litre engine as there is of redesigning the 280 SL. The only prospect of a complete newcomer from Untertürkheim is that of a 4.5-litre V8 engined model at the upper end of the range but it need not be expected before the end of the year.

Many fond hopes will be dashed by the news that the C 111 is to remain unsaleable, but it is true that Daimler-Benz research and design engineers are still busy experimenting with it and that it will be one of the attractions of the Geneva motor show.

It will be on show at Geneva with a considerably modified body, better vision and a four-disc Wankel rotary engine and these developments are hardly likely to be the end of matters.

Reports that the BMW 1800 and 2000 range are to be replaced by a new design are dismissed by the works as premature. There is certainly no intention of introducing new models this year.

Experiments in all directions

It is a matter of course that in addition to continual improvements to existing models BMW are experimenting in all directions.

The alert BMW management's motto for 1970 is consolidation. Plans have been made for a production increase of twelve per cent to 165,000 units but extensions to the firm's facilities at Munich, Landshut and Dingolfing must have priority over further expansion.

This gives the lie to speculations about a BMW 2800 with a three-litre injection engine. Undergoing trials it may be but BMW emphatically deny any intentions of marketing a new BMW 2800 this year.

(Hannoversche Presse, 26 January 1970)

■ OUR WORLD

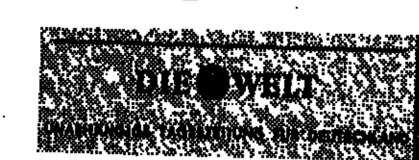
Youth 1970 – restive and inclined to the right

People who have had their own experiences in the company of today's youth or based their judgements of modern young people on the most striking utterances and actions of certain groups of young people, will probably suppose that a statistical survey on the political standpoint of the young can only have the one conclusion: they are "left".

In fact this wide-spread idea has been largely discounted in a recently completed survey about young people's political attitudes.

Some months ago a Hanover research centre for surveys on young people selected 1,800 young people from all classes and educational backgrounds, both sexes and aged between 15 and 19, representative of young people in this country and asked them questions.

The aim of the survey was to gain young people's political involvement and to what extent they were in the political picture. The survey also aimed to show what factors led to an interest in politics and current affairs, for instance schooling and vocational training, gender, age, religion and home background.



First of all an analysis was made of the youngsters opinions on 100 political and topical questions involved in the various spheres of politics – the governmental system, foreign policy and social welfare policies. The data was processed in such a way as to iron out most individual peculiarities of opinion and gain a general overall picture of what "youth" felt and believed.

The results of the survey were, however, diversified and showed certain contradictions. On the one hand there was a progressive-liberal-pacifistic outlook, on the other hand a tendency to ultra-conservatism, authoritarianism and even Fascist ideas. The balance between the two extremes is almost equal.

The political opinions of the left-wing extremists students can hardly be said to be unified and of one accord. More than a half reckoned that the Communist Party should be given another chance in the Federal Republic. About a half were for an American withdrawal from Vietnam, discussions rather than war. They spoke also of disarmament in the Federal Republic and a cutting back of the Bundeswehr and demanded negotiations involving compromise with the German Democratic Republic and Eastern Europe or large-scale neutrality...

Nevertheless, the opinions expressed showed no tendencies to reject our present political system nor any desire to change economic, educational and social welfare matters in a socialistic sense.

On the other hand there is a clear Fascist tendency noticeable. Many young people vindicated National Socialism saying it was not so bad really. They were mistrustful of the way modern publicity treated the Nazis and 38 per cent of those questioned were of the opinion that the likes of Adolf Hitler could come to power in this country again.

Opinions such as these were expressed along with a general defamation of today's politicians, nationalistic points of view, rejection of development aid programmes and the employment of foreign workers in this country.

Even if such a complex of attitudes strikes the observer as being trivial, a mere repetition of what has been heard particularly from parents who were born about 1930, or as expression of a fairly general political dissatisfaction in 1968 at the time of the Grand Coalition some explanation must be found of why such a vague political discontent should be expressed in a way that is right-wing extremist.

Fascist points of view such as this seem to be closely connected with a similar outlook expressed clearly by an even greater percentage of the young people questioned in the survey. They have a retrogressive attitude,

Just how young are the youngsters who predict the end of the human race coming from the nuclear bombs? Young people who want to run no risks and who demand on one side European Economic Community and European integration or intra-German reconciliation and on the other hand call for a Bundeswehr strong enough just to defend the Federal Republic?

Obviously such pessimistic young people as this find no room in their minds to imagine alternatives to their visions of impending doom.

They cannot see what possibilities there are for change and what changes have been made and are being made.

They are also not clear on the fact that it is only possible to make what has been achieved so far continuous by a measure of dynamism and further development.

In all expressions of opinions of this kind what is meant is never respectable conservatism which would like to adapt traditional ideas to a suitable form for the present and the future.

It is a question rather of hiding behind the status quo (or even quo anti), which is connected with Fascistic tendencies and negative developments in foreign policy, economics and the system of government.

Without doubt there is a basic difference of opinion of the progressive and liberal tendencies which stand for progressive optimism for detente, integration and transparency in as many questions of foreign policy and domestic policy as possible, if not all. But counter tendencies are obviously still very strong.

(DIE WELT, 23 January 1970)

Domestic science school for men

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Men in Münster have given up going to the pub in the evening and have taken up a new hobby – they are now attending a domestic science school.

In many families when the mother or the wife goes sick or is prevented from doing domestic chores for some other reason the household is hit by catastrophe. Suddenly the head of the family finds that he must cook, scrub, darn and sew. Nowadays cooking is the least of his worries since the canning and deepfrozen food industries have come to the rescue of grasswidowers and bachelors.

But industry can scarcely step in and do all the other housewife's duties. The school in Münster has filled this gap. It will help men who are suddenly woman-less to overcome difficulties. With the slogan – Tip-top without a housewife – all men from around Münster are invited to initiate themselves into the mysteries and secrets of housework.

The reputation of the school has spread. Men quickly flocked to fill the places in class. On the curriculum the most important lesson is the care and preservation of clothes. Men are shown, for instance, how to remove spots of grease and wax.,

Pressing trousers is one of the simplest tasks, but wielding a needle and cotton is something most men find difficult.

The school in Münster claims that at the end of a course a man should feel as at home taking care of a home as a woman.

One student at the domestic science school has discovered the negative side of the school's beneficial work. Back in action again his wife discovered to her amazement that her better half was also better at sewing. The outcome was inevitable. The husband now does all the sewing.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 27 January 1970)



Long live the mini!

Frankfurt's fashion institute has shown it is remaining faithful to the mini. In contrast to fashion houses in Rome it has set out to provide a summer of unclad knees in 1970. The institute is offering bright colours and comfortable cuts to those who cannot find comfort in the mini's competitors the midi and the maxi.

(Photo: dpa)

NEWS IN BRIE

The rare sex

Eligible bachelors between 25 and in the Federal Republic are find that there is a dearth of marriag women in their age group.

These grim figures were publi recently in Munich by Professor Jürgens of Kiel University, who population survey.

There are roughly one million men this age group looking for a wife, only 420,000 single women to go rou

The reason for this shortage of the sex between these ages is that 98 out hundred women between 25 and choose older men.

Men under 25 have a similar plight. Every 3.5 million unmarried men are only 2.8 million single girls of ages.

In the 30-35 age group 400,000 men contend for only 300,000 women.

The picture is not so black unattached 35 to 40 year-old men se female counterparts. Supply and dem coincide at 250,000.

From then on women proliferate. 200,000 unmarried 60 year-old men choose among 900,000 unwed wom they are still interested!

(DIE WELT, 27 January 1

Roger and out!

Petrol, measuring equipment, radi ceivers and transmitters and apparatus valued at 120,000 Marks disappeared in the course of one year fr the barracks at the army radio trai battalion in Starnberg.

To date 43 thefts have been cleared But mystery still surrounds the dis pearance of a fully equipped radio with apparatus worth 80,000 Marks.

(DIE WELT, 22 January 19

Epilogue

Ten thousand married women between 20 and 30 have been ask whether they allow their husbands watch television.

Seven thousand two hundred of th women married for between one and seven years, said they thought the effect of TV detrimental to marital bliss.

Eight hundred and seven of the wiv said that they have gone beyond th discussion stage and taken action.

Twenty two television sets we smashed to smithereens by irate wives.

Many of the women, however, agr to allow their husbands to televiev long as the "box" was not switched on day everyday.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 January 197

Men's fashions

Fashions in 1970 for men are tight and showing a slim line, according to th fashion committee of the Federal Re public tailors' guild reporting in Ham burg.

The trend is towards shorter jackets narrower shoulders and broad lapels.

Slashes are worked into clothes for al occasions, ordinary wear, sports clothe and for travel.

Trousers will be close as far as the kne and flair out just a little towards the foot

(DIE WELT, 20 January 1970)

■ SPORT

Bob pilot Floth finally passes the post first

Hannoversche Presse

Bob sledding in this country seems well on the way to regaining the position it held before the war, when five world championships were notched up, and in the years 1951/52, 1958 and 1962.

The titles won over the last three years speak for themselves. Floth and Bader won Olympic silver in the two-man bob at Grenoble. Zimmerer, Geisreiter, Steinbauer and Utzschneider were last year's world champions in the four-man bob. And now the double victory at St Moritz!

This leap forward from mediocrity is no coincidence. It is the result of five years of build-up by Franz Schelle, 1962 fours world champion. When he took over as coach in 1965 few people gave him much chance – unjustly as it turned out.

With his own brand of perseverance Schelle steadily built up his proteges.

There were roller sleds and fitness training. Promising bob men were promoted. Contacts were established with the tobogganers, who had built a superb artificial ice track in Königssee.

Could Königssee, Schelle wondered, be used to prolong the bob season, which otherwise lasted a mere seven weeks?

It could. In mid-November the bob men came from Ohlstadt and Riessersee to get in up to a dozen practice runs a day. They emulated the tobogganers, who make a point of getting in as much practice as possible, 300 runs and more, it is said, before championships.

The Königssee toboggan run may not be ideal for bob training but, sports secretary Hans Hohenester claims, it does give bob pilots a practical feel for steering and on the last three bends at least bobs do reach the racing speed that trains hand and eye in the technique of taking bends.

With the benefit of this special training Floth, Zimmerer, Pitka & Co made their way to Cortina, St Moritz and the 1970 championship title events.

At the European championships in Cortina Floth and Bader were unlucky to come second. Hardly anyone imagined that they could lose after ending the first day a minute and thirty-five seconds ahead but in the remaining two races Gaspari and Armano beat them to win by the narrow margin of three hundredths of a second.

Thirty-three-year-old Garatshausen hotelier Horst Floth must have wondered after having lost to Eugenio Monti at Grenoble in 1968 on a technicality in a dead-heat time whether his bad luck was ever going to end.

St Moritz was to change all that. Floth, a really competent bob pilot, was at long last to come home first.

His St Moritz performance was in statistical terms this country's fourteenth world championship and the fifth in the two-man bob. Bob pilot Wolfgang Zimmerer was no newcomer to championship honours, having been one of the 1969 world championship four at Lake Placid and the 1970 European championship four at Cortina, where Floth was so unlucky. In both cases Zimmerer was pilot.

(Hannoversche Presse, 27 January 1970)

Horst Floth (in front) and Josef Bader winning the world championship two-man bob title (Photo: Werek)

A plea for speed skating

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Speed skating in this country owes the little popularity it has to successful exponents Günter Traub, Gerd Zimmermann and Olympic gold medallist Erhard Keller. A solitary 400-metre artificial rink at Inzell is not enough, not even together with the courses and competitions for talented youngsters financed by the Bavarian Ministry of Education.

There is no point in mentioning that speed skating is a popular sport in Holland and Norway, but it is worth noting that Holland, with a population of thirteen million, has no fewer than five 400-metre artificial rinks, in Amsterdam, Herenveen, Deventer, Rotterdam and The Hague.

Ice skating as such is popular here too but barriers go up at the suggestion that 400-metre rinks be built in cities at least. This is incomprehensible when it is borne in mind that they pay for themselves in the few hours the general public use them, as tiny Inzell proves.

They do not need to be super-rinks at ten million Marks a time; three million is more than enough. Take Munich, for example. The wind-shielded Pullacher Platz sportsground would be ideal for a 400-metre rink now that the Olympic covered rink will no longer do the trick. What, for that matter, about the Leverkusen-Cologne project?

With three or four city rinks and good trainers attached to university departments of physical education there would be no need to worry about a shortage of enthusiastic youngsters. It hardly needs to be added that an evening run-around for the general public is more fun on a real track than on ice-hockey pitches.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 January 1970)

Football League 70 years old

The seventieth anniversary of the foundation of the German Football League was a working day like any other at the DFB's Zeppelinallee headquarters in Frankfurt. No special celebrations were held.

At the constituent assembly, held in Leipzig in 1900, 36 delegates represented 86 clubs from as far away as Breslau and Königsberg.

The DFB in the Federal Republic, reconstituted in 1949, is the largest sports association in the country. According to its last published statistics there were 16,292 member clubs with a total of 1,722,503 members. There will now be more.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 January 1970)

High altitude training works wonders

Two so far unknown swimmers, Werner Lampe and Gerhard Schiller, have suddenly hit the headlines. At the ASA trials on their return from high-altitude training at St Moritz they notched up outstanding times.

In the 1,500 metres freestyle Werner Lampe rated the third best time ever: 16 min. 17.9 sec. Only Hans Fassnacht and Mike Burton of the United States have swum faster this season, and that at the German open championships in a 25-metre pool in Bonn.

Gerhard Schiller swam the 200 metres freestyle in 1 min. 56.7 sec. Only Hans Fassnacht has ever bettered this time, rating 1 min. 53.4 sec. in the same baths a year ago.

Both Lampe and Schiller agreed that their performances would not have been possible without the high-altitude course at St Moritz and Gerhard Hetz's tough training. Werner Lampe was more than fifty seconds below his previous best; Gerhard Schiller a good eight.

Both had to make considerable sacrifices to train in Bonn, which has become something of a swimmers' Mecca. Lampe went to Bonn five months before his final examination at Hanover commercial college. He stayed for ten days, then returned home to swot. He has just taken his finals.

Gerhard Schiller, a Bundeswehr soldier, was posted to Bonn on 1 December 1969. Five weeks of tough training in Bonn and St Moritz transformed a mediocre swimmer into an Olympic hope. "Never in my entire life have I trained as hard as I am doing now," he comments. "Success eggs me on."

With Gerhard Schiller in this form the Federal Republic crawl relay team's prospects of a medal at the European championships in Barcelona this September are a good fifty per cent better.

As No. 1 in the 10 x 100 metres freestyle relay for his club in Bonn Schiller clocked 53.5 seconds. Hetz's proteges swam an average 55 seconds, which only goes to show what talent Bonn has.

Uschi Römer, Heidi Reineck and Doris Meister also set up new records, showing a considerable improvement in form and reducing the gap between this country and Europe's top flight.

How does Gerhard Hetz feel about what in some cases were staggering improvements in performance? "I was sceptical," he says, "for doctors had warned us that a crisis can occur on the second and third day after returning to normal altitudes.

"But this only happened in two or three cases, one of them being Wolfgang Kremer and in his case it could equally well be a dose of flu. I am definitely convinced, though, that St Moritz was responsible for an average improvement of 1.5 seconds on everyone's part. The trials have proved their worth."

(DIE WELT, 27 January 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD-$ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.60
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft. 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d